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Art Speaks Volumes

Tri-Town Against Racism

By Marilou Newell

February is Black History Month, a time to celebrate and a time to remember sacrifices made as well as challenges overcome and those still pending.

It has been said that, when something bad happens, oftentimes something good can come out of that negative experience. No experience amplifies that point more clearly than the experience that John Excellent suffered through. On February 8, Excellent gave opening remarks at Tri-Town Against Racism's Black History Month Creative Expressions Contest 2026. He told of a brutal attack he suffered and the subsequent search to find meaning in that horrific moment.

Sometime later he found TTAR. He shared that,



Above & On the Cover: The Tri-Town Against Racism held their annual Black History Month Creative Expressions Contest on February 7 in the Mattapoisett Library. The event is in its sixth year, with the 2026 event seeing around 30 grade school students from the area submit their artwork. The winners are Noah Santos, Kenna Thompson, Jacoby Santos, Alex Amara, and honorable mention, Mathew Crain. The exhibition is open throughout Black History Month in the library. Photos by Marilou Newell

rather than dwell on that horror, he sought a venue of likeminded citizens coming together for positive change.

TTAR began with a group of mothers whose children had experienced racism. They strove towards bringing such issues to a wider audience in the hope that all people, all races, all genders and gender identifications would have a voice. From their website, "Tri-Town Against Racism is dedicated to defending our community against racism through education, positive communication, and amplifying the voices of those impacted."

One of the many programs developed by TTAR is an annual art contest, now in its sixth year. Art produced by school-aged children (from first grade to 12th) shared their vision of inclusivity, positivity, and the power of art. The Mattapoisett Free Public Library hosted the exhibit, which includes art from some 30 junior and senior students from Old Rochester Regional Junior High School and ORRHS who submitted meaningful works.

The older students used a collage-style format to blend art with examples of what specific leaders have accomplished in their lifetime.

Many of the young artists selected civil-rights leaders focusing on the impact of these leaders for what

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has become a monumental movement for equality and inclusivity in our nation. The young artists also understand the struggle is not over as was evident in their artworks.

Returning to points made by Excellent previously, he urged local citizens to start change "where you live." From its 2020 start, TTAR has been doing just that with programs geared towards the youth in the communities.

Winners were selected from the junior and senior classes. The 2026 winners are Noah Santos, Kenna Thompson, Jacoby Santos, Alex Amaral, and honorable mention, Mathew Crain.

The exhibit featuring creative works may be viewed through March 1 at the Mattapoisett Free Public Library. To learn more about TTAR, you can visit tritownagainstracism.org.

Swipe Right!

Elizabeth Taber Library
By Sam Bishop

On February 10, just on the eve of Valentine's Day, an event was hosted at the Elizabeth Taber Library: Swipe Right! A night of Romance Novels and Reviews. Enjoying the newer room in the back of the library, many come to read and discuss various romance books and novels, as well as receiving some reviews from librarians, read-alongs, and treats.

The event was hosted by librarian staff, which offered insight into many of the books on display around the room. Some of the books discussed and on display were *A Court of Wings and Ruin* (from the ACOTAR series) by Sarah J. Maas, *Say You'll Remember Me* by Abby Jimenez, *The Ginger Bread Bakery* by Laurie Gilmore,



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Icebreakers by Hannah Grace, and many others.

Library Director Elizabeth Sherry, Head of Adult Services Emily Newell, and Children's Librarian Macy Davis sat by a table with a stack of their choice books, reading passages to the entranced circle of readers.

As Valentine's Day nears, sometimes it's hard to find events that encapsulate the holiday beyond "buying stuff" and that focus on the love and emotion of the holiday. This reading and discussion event served as an opening to the week of San Valentino, allowing moments of thought and reflection into a holiday that often boils down to heart-shaped chocolate boxes, not that there's anything wrong with those!

Valentine's Day also happens to coincide with the holiday weekend for Presidents' Day. The Elizabeth Taber Library regularly hosts many similar events, including the Banned Book Club or Cozy Cup Book Club and many other seasonal events, such as Black History Month Storytime on Monday, February 17 at 10:30 am.

New York Safe, Back to Boston

This Week in Revolutionary War History

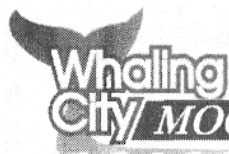
By Sam Bishop

This week in Revolutionary War history, let's check up on what was going on 250 years ago in and around the colonial Province of Massachusetts Bay. Last week, General George Washington evened the field of pay between enlisted soldiers and mercenaries, so long as the latter bring their own weapons and food. Washington is also focused on British movements out of Boston, fearing they could strike at New York City. More troops are being raised across the Thirteen Colonies, and the Continental Congress seems poised to push them north to go after Quebec. Washington, however, has his eyes set on Boston.

On February 4, 1776, British General Henry

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Clinton, who departed Boston a few days prior, lands in New York. American Major General Charles Lee has spent the last days heading to the city to bolster defenses in anticipation of this arrival. However, an envoy from Clinton states he is only visiting the Royal Governor of New York, William Tryon. Clinton, following the meeting, would continue south towards the Carolinas. Tensions are high, however.

New York Representative to the Continental Congress Thomas Lynch writes to Washington on February 5. He says, "The strong apathy that hold Congress in fetters is still more forceable here, however luckily Clinton is come without force." Lynch is displeased with Congress' action, or lack thereof, and



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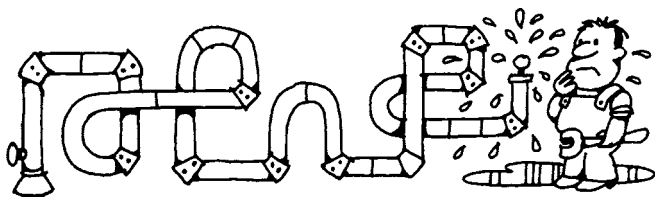
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preparations for the defense of New York have not materialized. The city is wide open and greatly lacks fortifications. The fact that a British General can come ashore unbothered worries Patriots near the city.

Lee writes Washington on February 6, explaining he arrived in the city the same day as the British general. Major General Lee, anxious and untrusting, is taken aback by Clinton's willingness to share his plans with him, saying, "He has brought no troops with him and pledges his honor that none are coming. He says it is merely a visit to his friend Tryon – if it is really so it is the most whimsical piece of civility I ever heard of – He informs us that his intention is for N. Carolina where he expects five regiments from England." Lee thinks this is surely a ruse, but it will turn out to be the truth, giving New York more time to build defenses.

On February 10, Washington would reply to Lee. He understands Lee's stress, having entrusted him with the defense of New York City. However, General Washington highlights his own short fallings, saying, "Business multiplies so fast upon my hands that I am confined almost entirely to the house." Being deprived of assistance, he asks Lee to part with Boston-born William Palfrey. The secretary and Freemason will soon serve as aide-de-camp to Washington, as his eyes shift away from bureaucracy and back to the battlefield.

At this time, artillery has been secured from Henry Cox's expedition. Slowly, it is being cleaned and prepared for use against Boston.

Got Hygge?

The Seaside Gardener

By Laura McLean

Hold on to your hygge. It makes sense that the Danish concept, loosely translated as "comfort" and "well-being," was invented in a place where winter is dark and weather is often inclement. As a tried-and-true New Englander, no stranger to prolonged winter, the topic piqued my curiosity. I must possess the American version of this lovely notion, I thought. Perhaps I could beam myself up without the need of a trip south, just by invoking a little hygge.

Come to find out, I've been practicing hygge for eons – whenever I light the fire, pull on a cozy sweater and Afghan, and snuggle up with the cat and a good book, I've got hygge. Or when I have my besties over for a meal and good conversation, I get hygge. At family gatherings and even with work mates in the office, I have been having my share of hygge.

To make the most of it, I did some research. ... First of all, it's pronounced with a guttural "HYOO-guh" as many websites demonstrate. I found numerous articles on the topic as this cultural phenomenon continues to intrigue the United States on the heels of the mindfulness craze and with nearly as much fascination. I first became interested in the idea while watching a Danish program on Netflix – and my next step was to invest in a book

on the subject – there are many to choose from. Now in the depths of winter, it seems a day doesn't go by that I haven't thought of hygge – especially now with the Winter Olympics on and the desire to nestle by the television, watching athletes give their best.

It was born out of the dark days – sort of like a medieval epic – think “Beowulf” or “Lord of the Rings.” People at some point learned the value of comfort and camaraderie. Denmark has up to 17 hours of darkness per day in the winter, and people spend more time indoors as a result, meaning there's greater focus on home entertaining, according to a BBC report.

Meik Wiking, CEO of the Happiness Research Institute in Copenhagen, writes in his book “The Little Book of Hygge” how we can embrace the long, cold, dark



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days of winter in a way that is characteristically Danish. “Danes are the happiest people in Europe according to the European Social Survey, but they are also the ones who meet most often with their friends and family and feel the calmest and most peaceful. Therefore, it is with good reason that we see a growing interest in hygge,” writes Wiking. “Journalists are touring Denmark searching for hygge; in the UK, a college is now teaching Danish hygge; and around the world, hygge bakeries, shops, and cafes are popping up.” His book covers the entire hygge umbrella, touching on the all-important way it leads to happiness.

On a more superficial level – and this is something American marketing is latching onto – hygge is



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about creating a retreat, which is typically about bringing on the candles, applying throw blankets, wool sweaters and other warm coverage, plus delicious baked goods, hot cocoa, tea or coffee. It seems the perfect vehicle to sell stuff.

A more recent poll has found that Finland currently holds the top spot as the world's happiest country with Denmark second. I may not live in a Nordic country but believe that hygge is achievable.

Reading further, I realized I can do it during office hours, on weekends, and in any season. Might it be accessible in a garden? In fact, it's even better without Wi-Fi so camping, hiking and gardening are perfect scenarios – if you have a firepit or an outdoor gathering spot, you're

well on your way. A bonfire to celebrate summer solstice is as hygge-worthy as a fireplace in a cabin retreat in winter.

I asked a friend's Danish husband to explain the concept to me. He told me it's not something you can buy but rather a state of mind. Brian, a merchant marine engineer who grew up in Denmark, clarified: "It's something you create whether listening to music and having a cup of tea or driving along the beach and chatting with my daughter – it's about being present in that moment. We can say it was hyggelich that you came by and had a cup of tea the other day to talk and catch up. That part – the connection – is what constitutes hygge. Things take the time things take," he explained, giving the impression that the Danish culture is not a rushed one like ours.

"Hygge" writes Wiking, "is the antidote to the cold winter, the rainy days, and the duvet of darkness. So, while you can have hygge all year round, it is during winter that it becomes not only a necessity but a survival strategy. That is why Danes have a reputation of being hygge fundamentalists and talk about it... a lot.

"What might be unique for Denmark when it comes to hygge is how much we talk about it, focus on it, and consider it as a defining feature of our cultural identity and an integral part of the national DNA," writes Wiking. In other words, what freedom is to Americans, thoroughness to Germans, and the stiff upper lip to the British, hygge is to Danes."

So, you see, I, and maybe you too, have been hyggelich – like forever. I just didn't put a name to it. I look forward to a summer hygge as well with the smell of fresh, mown grass, saltwater and suntan lotion, not to mention the feel of the sun on my skin. But let's just focus on living happily in the moment that is now.

"It is those crisp, blue mornings when the light through your window is just right. It is about gratitude and savoring the simple pleasures in life. In short, it is the pursuit of everyday happiness." – Meik Wiking, author and CEO of the Happiness Research Institute

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Rezoning Proposal Debated

Rochester Planning Board

By Michael J. DeCicco

In a meeting room packed to capacity with concerned residents, Rochester's Planning Board on Tuesday held a Public Hearing on zoning map amendments for lots on Mary's Pond Road and County Road. The proposal to rezone these lots from Residential to Limited Commercial will be considered at the May 18 Annual Town Meeting.

The original plan was to do so with four lots at 0 Mary's Pond Road, 711 Mary's Pond Road, 35 County Road, 73 County Road, and 0 High Street. The board began the hearing Tuesday by taking a large portion of the County Road proposal, a cranberry bog behind Adrian's Package Store, and 0 High Street, off of the rezoning amendment. But it then added a 256-acre former Decas Cranberry Company property on Mary's Pond Road to that amendment.

Town Planner Michaela Shoemaker, Town Administrator Cameron Durant, and Planning Board members explained the goal is to better protect homeowners and taxpayers. The owner of the largest Mary's Pond Road property has expressed interest in building 12 single-family homes there. The rezoning to Limited Commercial could help him make other choices and give town boards more control as to what goes in there. The change would also bring in better tax revenue and residential property tax relief because commercial properties bring the town a higher tax value.

Audience members crowding the meeting room emphasized their fear of what the neighborhood would become under the zoning change and doubts that the rezone will actually lead to any benefits. Resident and Zoning Board of Appeals member Jeffrey Costa said he couldn't disagree more with the town officials' point of view. He said the change would only make it easier for the Decas land developer to do what he wants to do, and the change won't fix the town's budget crises. "I encourage you to cut this proposal now and not put it on the (Annual Town Meeting) warrant," he said.

Referring to a letter she has sent the board,



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an attorney for the abutters said that placing Limited Commercial there is a mismatch with the character of the town and the goals of its latest master plan, which is heavy on the need to preserve its natural resources. The board, she said, should decline to propose this amendment.

Chair Arnold Johnson led the response, noting that the panel was trying to be proactive, not reactive. In a purely residential zone, he said, the proposed house lots would not have local town controls; Approval Not Required lots need only adhere to state regulations. He noted the board does not vote to adopt the rezoning amendment. That approval will be by voters at Town Meeting.

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In other action, the board continued to its March 10 meeting its hearing on the request to approve a modification of the Definitive Subdivision Plan permit for the previously approved Snipatuit Pond Estates at Gerrish and Bishop roads that would swap two parcels of open space to create a 3.578-acre, buildable lot on one of the parcels.

The board continued to its February 24 meeting its Site Plan Review hearing on a proposal to clear land behind Town Hall and re-grade for an 8,220-square-foot parking lot.

The board continued to its February 24 meeting the Site Plan Review hearing to create a second home lot from an existing 5.25-acre parcel at 314 Neck Road.

The Rochester Planning Board's next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 24 at 7:00 pm at Town Hall, 1 Constitution Way.

Disagreement over Point Road Path

Marion Open Space Acquisition Commission

By Sam Bishop

The Marion Open Space Acquisition Commission met on February 5 and mainly went over developments on the Point Road Path.

Vice President of Sippican Lands Trust Jeff Doubrava spoke first. Doubrava sought a letter of support from the commission for near the corner of Route 6 and Rocky Nook Lane, on the Rocky Nook Lane side, "kinda

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meander up towards the back side of the site away from the river and end up at the junction of the site with the Grassi Bog." This project stems from the desire to connect two conservation regions, Sparrows Mill maintained by Sippican Lands Trust, and Grassi Bog, maintained by Buzzards Bay Coalition. Doubrava explained it would both give visitors more places to walk and offer more places to park.

MOSAC Chair John Rockwell explained this item was not on the original agenda, and thus a decision could not be decided at this meeting. The next meeting of the commission will likely be attended by Doubrava to formally put forth this request.

The commission then approved the schedule of its meetings for the next year, approving it as well as continuing to hold meetings at 6:00 pm.

Rockwell moved discussion to the Point Road Path, specifically to cover material recommended by engineers. "All the recommendations, they all coincide," he said, referring to gravel and stone-dust popularity. Rather than committing to the whole path now, Rockwell recommended they test it on a smaller portion of trail first.

Member Norman Hills responded, "I don't think we should be doing anything until we've figured out what's going to be done." He added, "it's not going to solve the problem that's out there." Member Kitty DeGroot pushed Hills for an alternate next step, to which



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Hills recommended hiring an engineer to do a cumulative plan of the whole project.

Conservation Commission member Shaun Walsh explained the original grant proposal from 2019, saying "the specs were three inches of gravel for subbase to be topped with three inches of stone dust. Neither one of those materials has been used in the construction of this path." Walsh went on to say he believes what is being worked on now was not what was originally submitted to vote at Town Meeting in 2019. Walsh added that he agrees with Hills' desire to seek out an engineer.

Rockwell went back and forth with Walsh until member Tom Friedman said, "this brings us no closer to a solution." The commission came to a consensus to

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seek estimates for consultations with an engineer. The commission will need to schedule a special meeting before February 20, as that is the final date to submit for the grant to support further work. Otherwise, they will have to wait a year.

The next meeting of the Marion Open Space Acquisition Commission has not yet been scheduled.

King to Remain Conservation Chair

Mattapoisett Conservation Commission

By Marilou Newell

The Mattapoisett Conservation Commission met on Monday. It became a bit of a marathon meeting as the commissioners addressed technicalities associated with stormwater run-off, bog boards in jurisdictional areas, and other matters. They also voted to have Mike King remain as the chair of the commission, a position he has held for a number of years.

In agenda matters, a Notice of Intent was filed by Mattapoisett IV Ltd located at 23 Holly Woods. The filing notes that the applicant proposes the construction of an in-ground pool, sports courts, a garage, porches, an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) and the replacement of a deck with associated landscaping. The request was continued for two weeks to allow the 6-acre site to thaw.

A Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) filed by David McIntire for property located at 0 Aucoot Road returned after a continuation was previously

granted. McIntire plans on allowing the parcel to be used as a nursery. The issue of what type of roadway or driveway should be allowed found the commission deferring the decision to the Planning Board, which has oversight of driveways and roadways. McIntire said he also wished to confer with Highway Surveyor Garrett Bauer.

Representing a Notice of Intent (NOI) filed by Nepo Realty LLC was David Davignon of Schneider, Davignon & Leone, Inc. The filing calls for the construction of a single-family dwelling. After some discussion regarding drainage, Davignon pointed out that elevations would not be changing, and no fill would be placed on the parcel. The commissioners issued an Order of Conditions.

Also granted was a Notice of Intent for property next door and another parcel earmarked for development by Nepo. There was significant discussion about the use of wooden planking in jurisdictional spaces. Citizens in attendance voiced concerns that in the near future the state's Department of Environmental Protection would make construction on barrier beaches a thing of the past. A question was raised by Hillary Vineyard as to whether or not the applicant was trying to push the project through before the state regulations change.

King said it was possible that residents who have been paying property taxes for years might find their investment unbuildable in the future, but for now they are primarily concerned with following current rules and regulations. The project was conditioned.

Representing Stephen Vaites, Bryne Avenue and Shell Beach Road, was Andrew Stackpole of Field Engineering appeared before the commission, and the NOI regarding easement rights was continued to February 23.

The next meeting of the Mattapoisett Conservation Commission is scheduled for Monday, February 23.

Denitrification Hearing Set for March 19

Marion Board of Health

By Sam Bishop

The Marion Board of Health met on Thursday, February 5 to go over new training standards for board members, Marion Sanitary Code changes, and various updates on town health initiatives.

The board began with discussions on new standards and training provisions regarding the Statewide Accelerated Public Health for Every Community Act (SAPHE 2.0 Law). These new training courses are recommended by the Massachusetts Associates of Health Boards (MAHB), of which the Marion Board of Health is a member.

Public Health Director Lori A. Desmarais explained the new standards as well as various surveys required that must be completed by board members. She explained the SAPHE 2.0 programs would "be probably

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annually” and that she was informed, should the surveys not be completed, the town would be removed from the South Coast Collaborative Grant. She noted that the training program will be required for other grants as well.

Next, Chair Albin R. Johnson III brought forward discussions on possible changes to the Marion Sanitary Code, mainly § 4.180: Septic System Denitrification Regulation and § 8: Food Service. In order to amend the Marion Sanitary Code, the board would need to hold public hearings and open discussions on desired changes. The Public Hearing for changes to the code was tentatively scheduled for Thursday, March 19.

The public health director then gave updates on various ongoing town health initiatives including the “Be Safe – Be Seen” high-visibility vest program, with police officers now possessing bags of the slogan-bearing vests in their cruisers for distribution. Desmarais stated that, due to the success and popularity of the program, she has received word that Mattapoissett may launch a similar initiative.

The town still has flu and Covid vaccines available, with the director noting influenza-like illness in the state is high and that the southeast region is very high. She did add, “I haven’t seen as many cases coming through – most of the cases that have come through haven’t had a flu vaccine this year, or the last couple years.”

Desmarais announced that on Thursday, April 30 at 5:30 in the Marion Council on Aging, there will be a presentation by a USDA representative to go over the aerial oral-baiting program to fight against rabies in local wildlife.

The next meeting of the Marion Board of Health is scheduled for Thursday, February 19.

Hiles, Bulldogs Handle Case

Sports Roundup

By Aiden Comorosky

The Old Rochester Regional High School boys basketball team played at Joseph Case (6-10) on February 6 and won 72-33. Brody Hiles was named the player of the game, scoring 28 points including 5 three-pointers,



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and dished out 5 assists. The Bulldogs scored 31 points in the first quarter and managed the game from there on. Old Rochester took an 11-6 record into Wednesday's game at 10-6 Bishop Stang.

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The Wanderer gladly accepts any and all news and press release items from local nonprofit organizations for publication on a weekly basis. The deadline for submission of news items is Monday at noon for publication in that week's edition. Due to the increasing number of submissions; however, publication of press material is never guaranteed. *The Wanderer* will make every effort to publish timely news items and announcements as the subject warrants and as often as spacing allows. All press material must be submitted by email to news@wanderer.com and must be either in a text or Word file. We are not able to retype, correct or hunt down information to repair incomplete press releases,

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Photographs of area events and newsmakers are also accepted and encouraged. *The Wanderer* accepts well-lit and clearly defined photographs for publication provided that they include a brief summary of the event or subject. We cannot return photographs. Like news items, the deadline for photos is Monday at noon, and the publication of photographs is also subject to spacing constraints and cannot be guaranteed.

All submitted copy is subject to alterations and/or condensation as space allows at the editor's discretion. All submissions become the property of *The Wanderer* and are assumed to be submitted for the purpose of publication. Submissions cannot be returned; therefore, please make sure to retain copies.

Poems and essays submitted for publication are subject to *The Wanderer's* Copy Submissions and Letters to the Editor policies.

Ideas for features, breaking news tips and other suggestions for the news department are welcome. Please call the News Editor with news tips and ideas at 508-758-9055. If it is after hours, please leave a message or email news@wanderer.com.

ORRHS Receives \$75,000 Career Pathways Grant

There are currently 23 students at Old Rochester Regional High School who are on pathways to develop practical skills, earn college credits and get a taste of what work is like in their career of interest.

Old Rochester Regional (ORR) High School recently received a \$75,000 grant from the state government to support the ongoing implementation of the Innovation Career Pathways (ICP) program, which provides students with opportunities for work-based learning in high-demand industries.

In total, the ORR program has received \$135,000 in grant funding since April 2025, when it was among 37 programs at high schools across the state to receive an initial ICP designation from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE).

Olive Huggins, a junior, shared her experience with the ORR Career Pathways program at the Old Rochester Regional School Committee Equity Subcommittee meeting held on Thursday, January 29. Huggins is among the 23 students enrolled in the ICP program at ORR, which offers two state-designated



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career exploration pathways: Business/Finance and Advanced Manufacturing. The ORR ICP program features a combination of academic coursework, technical training, work-based learning, and college credit opportunities, offering students the chance to develop real-world skills, earn industry-recognized credentials and make career connections.

So far, five students in the ORR ICP program have completed college courses and 13 are currently enrolled in college courses in their related career field. Students in the ORR ICP program will have access to internships such as Thompson Consultants Inc., an engineering consultant.

Students have also embarked on on-site internships through ORR's DECA student businesses, ORR Originals (a T-shirt press) and Bulldog Bites (a to-go



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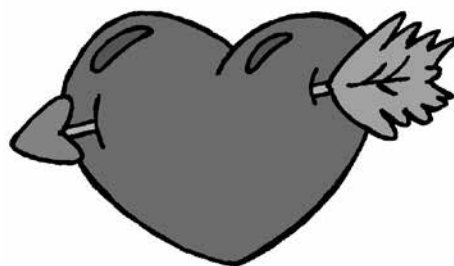
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snack box business for after school clubs, activities, and sports). ICP grant funding covered start-up costs for the student-led, school-based enterprises.

Old Rochester Regional High School's Innovation Career Pathways in Business & Finance and Advanced Manufacturing are both built on meaningful partnerships with the local business community. The ORR ICP program invites employers, organizations, and skilled professionals to collaborate with on the expansion of internship opportunities that provide students with authentic, hands-on experiences aligned to high-demand careers. Through these internships, students develop essential workplace skills, explore career pathways, and apply technical and academic learning in real-world

environments. In turn, ORR ICP program partners have the opportunity to mentor emerging talent, contribute to workforce development, and help ensure a strong, skilled pipeline of future employees for the region.

"Together, we can create impactful learning experiences that benefit students, businesses, and the greater Old Rochester community," said Assistant Principal Lauren Millette.

Members of the local business community and industry partners are asked to please contact Millette at laurenmillette@oldrochester.org to learn more about partnering with ORR on the ICP program.

The ORR ICP program is open to all interested students. To participate, students first attend an informational session to select a pathway and then complete an application with parental approval. Once accepted, students join specialized Bulldog Block sessions to explore their chosen field. They progress through a rigorous course sequence that begins with foundational high school classes and moves into advanced technical training and independent learning projects. As students master these high school requirements, they transition into dual enrollment courses to earn college credit. Throughout this journey, students meet regularly with mentors and ICP coordinators to manage their coursework and secure high-impact internships and build their portfolios.

Coordinators and mentors for the implementation of the ORR ICP program include Assistant Principal Lauren Millette, technology teacher Scott McElroy, chemistry teacher / DECA advisor Alyssa Whitney, and DECA advisor / paraprofessional Beth Trout.

Superintendent Michael S. Nelson, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning Shari Fedorowicz, Principal Michael Devoll, and Assistant Principal Millette thanked DESE for its investment in Old Rochester Regional High School students, offering them a transformative experience that will enable them to develop essential skills, gain awareness of future career opportunities and make informed choices about their post-secondary education.

"Programs like Innovation Career Pathways

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give students meaningful exposure to careers while they are still in high school, giving them a chance at early exploration of their potential careers, college-level courses and technical skill development," said Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning Fedorowicz. "The recent \$75,000 grant allows us to continue developing our ICP program, as we strive to help students make informed decisions about their futures."

"The ICP program is creating real opportunities for students to connect what they are learning in the classroom to the world beyond school," said Principal Devoll. "We are seeing students take ownership of their goals and engage more deeply when they can see how their work applies to future careers."

"This grant funding from the Healey-Driscoll Administration strengthens our ability to support students through every stage of the pathway, from exploration to college coursework and internships," said Assistant Principal Millette. "It also allows us to continue building partnerships that give students authentic experiences in high-demand fields. We're grateful to be able to expand upon this program and provide additional opportunities to our students."

"We are thankful to DESE and the Healey-Driscoll Administration for their continued investment in Old Rochester students and programs like this that emphasize both academic rigor and career skill development," said Superintendent Nelson. "Innovation Career Pathways allows our students to get two steps ahead, putting them on a path to graduate with a clearer sense of direction and the tools they need for postsecondary success."

Letters to the Editor

The views expressed in the "Letters to the Editor" column are not necessarily those of The Wanderer, its staff or advertisers. The Wanderer will gladly accept any and all correspondence relating to timely and pertinent issues in the great Marion, Mattapoisett and Rochester area, provided they include the author's name, address and phone number for verification. We cannot publish anonymous, unsigned or unconfirmed submissions. The Wanderer reserves the right to edit, condense and otherwise alter submissions for purposes of clarity and/or spacing considerations. The Wanderer may choose to not run letters that thank businesses, and The Wanderer has the right to edit letters to omit business names. The Wanderer also reserves the right to deny publication of any submitted correspondence. All letters must be typed and submitted directly to: news@wanderer.com.

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Dear Editor,

Island Wharf Is a Trust, Not a Parking Lot. This article appeared in the February 5, 2026, edition of *The Wanderer*. At a recent meeting, the Marion Select Board discussed future regulation of Island Wharf, focusing on parking and use of the green space between the Music Hall and the Maritime Center.

Island Wharf was given to Marion in 1901 "exclusively for a public purpose, not commercial." That language is unambiguous, and it carries moral weight. The Select Board is not the owner of Island Wharf; it is its trustee. Trustees do not trade away a public inheritance for convenience.

Garrett Hardin warned that commons are not

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destroyed by bad actors, but by reasonable people making small exceptions. One truck becomes another, one weekend becomes a season, and the damage becomes permanent. Grass compacted by heavy vehicles does not heal. The loss is quiet, incremental, and irreversible.

To permit commercial vehicles, equipment, or boat storage on the green is to choose short-term accommodation over long-term responsibility. It is to spend down a shared asset that does not belong to any one business, visitor, or board, but to the entire town, including those not yet here to speak for it.

Concern for local business is understandable. But Marion's economy depends on its character, not its convenience. Once Island Wharf is scarred, no regulation will restore what was lost.

Alternatives exist. The Sippican School, nearby church lots, and street parking can meet seasonal demand without sacrificing the green. The moral choice before the Select Board is simple: protect the commons now, or be remembered as the board that allowed it to be slowly erased.

The Select Board's Duty: Protect the Commons at Island Wharf.

Eileen J. Marum, Marion

Coastline Elderly Nutrition Program

Monday, **February 16:** Presidents Day – No meals served.

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Tuesday, **February 17:** Shephard's pie with mashed potatoes, corn & peas, green beans, cornbread loaf, peach cup.

Wednesday, **February 18:** Egg & cheese broccoli bake, mixed vegetables, whole grain buttermilk biscuit, pound cake, diet: fruit.

Thursday, **February 19:** Chicken Anna Maria, white rice, carrots, wheat roll, pear.

Friday, **February 20:** Herb crusted whit fish with lemon, garlic mashed potatoes, broccoli, wheat bread, chocolate chip cookie.

ORRHS Drama Club to Perform 'The Proposal' for METG Festival

Superintendent Michael S. Nelson and Principal Michael Devoll are proud to announce that the Old Rochester Regional High School Drama Club will present a modern adaptation of "The Proposal," Anton Chekhov's famous one-act comedy about complications and absurdities surrounding the business of love.

The Old Rochester Regional High School Drama Club will first perform its modern adaptation of "The Proposal" in the preliminary round of the 2026 Massachusetts Educational Theater Guild (METG) High School Drama Festival on February 28 at Joseph Case High School, located at 70 School St. in Swansea.

Then, the Drama Club is bringing it home to Old Rochester Regional High School to present "The Proposal" at 7:00 pm on **March 6**. Tickets will be on sale at the door for \$5 each.

"We'd like to wish our performing arts students the best of luck as they compete in the METG High School Drama Festival," said Principal Devoll. "We also look forward to getting a chance to support the Drama Club on March 6 for its performance back at home."

"We always look forward to seeing the sets, the production and the performances of our ORR Drama Club students," said Superintendent Nelson. "I'd like to offer my support as they continue to prepare for the METG Festival and the upcoming show at Old Rochester Regional High School on March 6."

Brayden Fanti, who became theater director at ORR last school year, wrote an "absurdist adaptation" of Chekhov's "The Proposal" for his students to perform.

The adaptation is a modern take on "The Proposal," which starts off with a man named Lomov who asks for his neighbor's hand in marriage, leading to a series of heated arguments and over-the-top meltdowns about trivial matters, such as pet ownership, property, pride and personal grievances.

The ORR Drama Club's performance of "The Proposal" in the preliminary round on February 28 will be judged by an expert panel on acting and technical design. Of 112 one-act plays that enter the festival, 14 will move on to the State Finals held on March 26 through March 28, with three ultimately named as winners of the

competition. Two schools chosen from the METG State Finals will then go on to represent Massachusetts in the New England Drama Festival, a regional showcase of secondary school theatre.

Fanti urged the community to come support the ORR Drama Club students at the March 6 performance and enjoy a night of hilarious comedic escapades.

"The METG Festival is a wonderful experience for our students, and bringing the show back to ORR makes it even more special," said Director Fanti. "Our students have been working hard preparing for this show, and they've done an incredible job embracing the style of acting needed to make this play work. They're excited to share it with the community and to represent ORR at the METG Festival."

Academic Achievements

Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) has announced that Mattapoisett resident **Jack Langlais**, a member of the class of 2029 majoring in Robotics Engineering, was named to the university's Dean's List for academic excellence for the fall 2025 semester.

Western New England University (WNE) is proud to announce that **Steven Morrison** of Rochester has been named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2025 semester. Morrison is one of nearly 800 students to achieve this mark of academic excellence. Students are named to the Dean's List for achieving a semester grade point average



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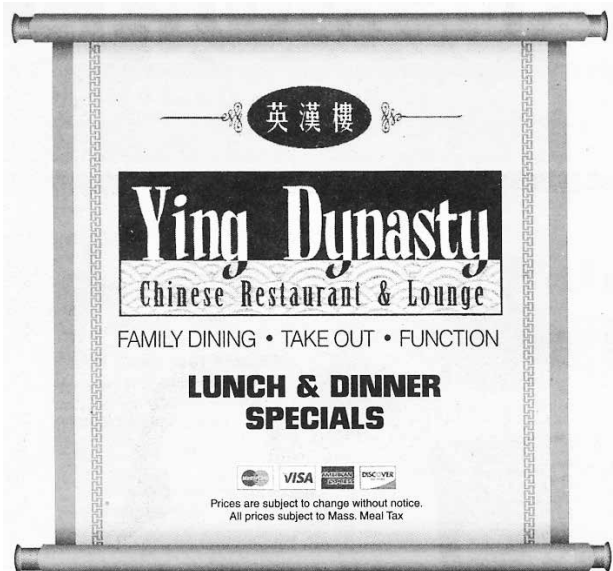
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Madison Azzara of Rochester, **Hayden Duke** of Mattapoisett, **Lauren Rapoza** of Marion, and **Alexa St. Louis** of Mattapoisett were named to the Dean's List during the fall 2025 academic semester at Salve Regina University. To qualify for the Dean's List, students must earn a semester grade point average of 3.6 for full-time students completing at least 12 graded credits, or a semester grade point average of 3.8 for part-time students completing at least six credits.

Kelsi Chick of Rochester, majoring in Tourism and Hospitality Mgmt and **Summer Williams** of Rochester, majoring in Psychology have been named to the Plymouth State University President's List for the



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Fall 2025 semester. To be named to the President's List, a student must achieve a grade point average of 3.70 or better for the Fall 2025 semester and must have completed at least 12 credit hours during the semester, at least nine of which must confer grade points, at the time the lists are finalized.

The University of Rhode Island is pleased to announce that **Sammy Willard** of Marion, **Connor Galligan** of Mattapoisett, **Cameron Gonzalez** of Mattapoisett, **Grace Greany** of Mattapoisett, **Tyler Williams** of Mattapoisett, and **Olivia Mydlack** of Rochester have been named to its Fall 2025 Dean's List.

ORRJH Students of the Quarter

Silas D. Coellner, Principal of Old Rochester Regional Jr. High School, announces the following Students of the 2nd Quarter.

Green Team: **Kai O. Johnson and Sophia J. Wilson.**

Orange Team: **Madilyn L. Valadao and Gabriel G. Gates.**

Blue Team: **Sydney J. Bates and Andrew G. Cody.**

Red Team: **Cayley M. Fernandes and Benjamin R. Perez-Dormitzer.**

Exploratory Team: **Gabriel K. Kirby and Samantha E. Deskin.**

Mattapoisett Republican Town Committee

The Mattapoisett Republican Town Committee will hold a caucus to elect delegates to the 2026 MassGOP Nominating Convention on Thursday, **February 19**, at Neimad Hall (formerly Knights of Columbus Hall), 57 Fairhaven Road (Route 6), Mattapoisett.

All registered Republicans in Mattapoisett are invited to attend and vote in electing our local delegates. These delegates will help nominate candidates for statewide offices - including Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, and U.S. Senator - at the state convention.

Any Mattapoisett registered Republican may run for delegate or nominate another eligible resident. Presence is not required to be nominated, but your sponsor must attend the caucus. If you cannot attend but want to run or nominate someone, contact Town Co-Chair

Paul Criscuolo ahead of time at pcmattygop@proton.me for eligibility vetting.

The MassGOP Nominating Convention is set for Saturday, April 25, at the DCU Center in Worcester, Massachusetts. Delegate fee: \$150. Carpooling is being arranged among attendees.

Be part of our fast-growing local party - registrations are at record highs - as we push for common-sense government and audits of the state legislature.

For questions or to express interest, email Paul Criscuolo at pcmattygop@proton.me.

Mattapoisett Woman's Club

The Mattapoisett Woman's Club invites interested local residents to its **February 19** monthly meeting for a unique presentation with professional textile conservator Kate Tarleton. Whether it's a family christening gown handed down from generation to generation or a quilt recently purchased at an antique shop, the heirloom textiles in your possession require special care. Join Kate Tarleton and the Mattapoisett Woman's Club to learn about the best methods for preserving, exhibiting, and caring for your precious antique and vintage textile treasures. Participants are encouraged to bring a textile about which they need conservation advice for the Q&A session following the lecture.

Visitors are welcome to attend this presentation which will begin at 11:30 am at the Mattapoisett Congregational Church in Reynard Hall. The Mattapoisett Woman's Club is a civic, social, educational and philanthropic organization. Membership is always open to local women who are interested in the objectives and mission of the organization. For more information or questions please contact info@mattapoisettwomensclub.org.

Mattapoisett Woman's Club Scholarships

The Mattapoisett Woman's Club has announced two \$2,500 scholarships available to Mattapoisett residents who are high school seniors planning to continue full-time studies at the college level.

Scholarships applications are available in the guidance offices at Old Rochester Regional High School, Bishop Stang High School, Tabor Academy, Old Colony Vocational Technical High School, Bristol County Agricultural High School, and online at www.mattapoisettwomensclub.org (see Scholarships). Applications must be postmarked on or before **March 31**. Incomplete submissions or those received after the deadline will not be considered.

The scholarships are made possible by fundraising events in our community. Membership in the Mattapoisett Woman's Club is open to any woman interested in furthering and supporting the philanthropic, academic, civic, and social goals of the organization.



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Mattapoisett Democrats To Hold Caucus

On Wednesday **March 18**, at 6:30 pm, the Mattapoisett Democratic Town Committee will convene in the downstairs public meeting room of the Mattapoisett Free Public Library to hold its local caucus to elect five (5) Delegates and four (4) Alternates to represent Mattapoisett at the Massachusetts State Democratic Convention, to be held Friday and Saturday May 29 and May 30 in Worcester at the DCU Center. This year is a nominating convention for the Senate seat Edward Markey currently holds.

Registered and pre-registered Democrats in the Town of Mattapoisett may be elected as delegates or alternates during the caucus. Pre-registered Democrats must be 16 years old by the start of the caucus window (February 19, 2026) and must be pre-registered by the time of the caucus.

Those interested in getting involved with the Mattapoisett Democratic Town Committee or for more information pertaining to the caucuses, please email Chairperson Nicki Demakis at ndemakis@tidhlaw.com.

Town of Marion Local Election

The Town of Marion Local Election will be held on Friday, **May 15**. Nomination Papers are now available at the Town Clerk's Office. The deadline to return completed papers is Monday **March 27** by 5:00 pm. The potential candidate must secure twenty-eight

(28) signatures to be placed on the ballot. The Town Clerk recommends that the potential candidate obtain at least thirty-five (35) signatures. In order to run for an elected position, you must be a registered voter in the Town of Marion. Any questions, please contact the Town Clerk's Office at 508-748-3502.

The open seats are as follows: Board of Assessors (1), Board of Health (1), Select Board (1), Marion School Committee (2), ORR School Committee (1), Open Space Acquisition Commission (2), Planning Board (3).

Marion Special Town Meeting

The Town of Marion will hold a Special Town Meeting on Monday, **March 23**, beginning at 6:45

A&A



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pm at the Sippican School Multipurpose Room. The warrant will be closed at the February 18 Select Board meeting and warrants will be mailed to voters. For more information, please contact Donna Hemphill at 508-748-3520 or dhemphill@marionma.gov.

Rochester Women's Club Scholarship Fundraiser

On Saturday **February 21**, from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm the Rochester Women's Club will again be hosting its Left Right Center Scholarship Fundraiser. Join us at the American Legion Hall, 3 Depot Street in Mattapoisett.

Join us for a fun afternoon of games, raffles and snacks. A \$20.00 entrance fee will get you in the door. Winners keep all their cash.

We will have \$1.00 Games and \$5.00 games. All proceeds from the entrance fee will go to our scholarship fund. Each year we award three Rochester graduating high school seniors with a \$1,000.00 scholarship.

Space is limited so get there on time to grab your table. Bring your own snacks and drinks or enjoy the ones we will be providing. The legion does not supply alcohol. This is a bring your own event.

Marion DPW Open House

The Town of Marion invites the public to attend the official Ribbon Cutting and Open House for its new Department of Public Works (DPW) Operations Building, located at 60 Benson Brook Road, Marion. The event will take place on Friday, **February 13**, at 1:00 pm.

This milestone marks a significant investment in the Town's infrastructure and commitment to providing efficient, high-quality public services. Community members are invited to attend the ceremony, tour the new state-of-the-art facility, meet the dedicated DPW team, and enjoy light refreshments.

Weweantic River Bridge Construction

MassDOT estimates that bridge construction over the Weweantic River will begin on **February 23** and run through the end of the year. Hours of work are 7:00 am to 3:30 pm on weekdays. Work will start with tree clearing

and erosion control in February, followed by bridge demolition and replacement through the remainder of the year.

The contractor will use advanced warning signs, truck-mounted attenuators, arrow boards, traffic cones or reflectorized drums, temporary barriers, and police details for typical lane and shoulder closures. Drivers should expect delays, reduce speed, and use caution. All work is weather-dependent and may be impacted by emergency situations. For any questions, please contact the District 5 Construction Office at 857-368-5104.

Upcoming Events at the Elizabeth Taber Library

Ready to put a chill into the coldest winter's day? Jeff Belanger will be at the library on **February 19** at 6:00 pm to explore the haunts, legends, and monsters associated with winter. From frozen people to abominable snow beasts, from icy haunts to strange creatures who adapt to freezing temperatures, the Dead of Winter will give you something to shiver about. You've seen Jeff Belanger on television series such as William Shatner's UnXplained on the History Channel, Shock Docs on Discovery, Ghost Adventures on the Travel Channel, and New England Legends on PBS and Amazon Prime... now see him LIVE in person. For more than 25 years, Jeff has been exploring the weird and unexplained. He's one of the world's foremost storytellers and researchers of lore and legends. This will be an event you won't forget. Open to ages 12+ please RSVP by calling the library or by following the tickets link above.

On Saturday, **February 14**, join clinical psychology doctoral student Morgan Browning for a special valentine's themed Fun with Feelings storytime at 11:00 am. This program is designed for kids ages 4-8 and features a craft after storytime.

If you're planning ahead for February Vacation week - we've got a week full of activities. We'll be hosting Tri-Town Against Racism and the Excellent family for Black History Month storytime on Tuesday, **February 17** at 10:30 am for kids of all ages. Kids of all ages can drop in anytime between 10 AM and 5 PM on Thursday, February



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19 for crafting.

For more information on the Elizabeth Taber Library visit us at www.ElizabethTaberLibrary.org or email the library at ETLibrary@sailsinc.org. 8 Spring Street Marion, MA 02738. 508-748-1252.

Nature Journaling at the MNHM

The Marion Natural History Museum is offering Nature Journaling with Pen & Ink on **February 21**, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. During this session we will learn about the different ways to create form and texture with pen & ink and ink wash. This class will explore using ink via black Sakura brand micron ink pens. With the micron pens we will practice different mark making techniques such as stipple, cross hatching and thick & thin parallel lines to create texture and form.

Instructor will be bringing in a set of her own quill pens and ink to experiment with ink wash and ink line.

No experience necessary. Tricia Cassidy will be teaching and guiding through art exercises. To register



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please go to www.marionmuseum.org.

Call for Entries - Declaration & Dialogue: Reflections on 250 Years

The Marion Art Center announces a call for entries to its upcoming juried summer exhibition, Declaration & Dialogue: Reflections on 250 Years. As we mark the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, we invite artists to engage deeply with what this milestone means now - through lenses of commemoration, critique, hope, and transformation. This exhibition seeks contemporary works that spark conversation, paired with historic



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artifacts or artworks on loan from private collections or institutions.

All visual media is eligible - painting, sculpture, mixed media, video, or new media. Works should reflect the artist's personal interpretation of the Declaration's legacy - its ideals, challenges, complexities, or contradictions. Submissions may or may not offer political or social commentary; entries may reflect personal, aesthetic, emotional, or conceptual interpretations.

The deadline for entries is **June 1**, and the show dates are July 10 to August 7. More information and application instructions can be found at marionartcenter.org/events.

Tri-County Symphonic Band

On Sunday, **February 15** at 3:00 pm, the Tri-County Symphonic Band, under the direction of Philip Sanborn, will offer a salute to the English composer Gustav Holst. Holst's compositions for symphonic band have made him a cornerstone of the genre. His band music is celebrated for its rich orchestrations and use of English folk tunes. The concert will feature Holst's iconic "First Suite in E-flat for Military Band", "Second Suite in F for Military Band", and "A Moorside Suite," which are fundamental works for concert bands, showcasing vibrant harmonies and distinctive movements like marches, intermezzos, and folk song fantasias. There will be a suite of Christmas Carols written by Holt and arranged by

OBITUARIES



Margaret A. Ferreira, 81, of Mattapoisett, passed away peacefully on February 5, 2026, following her courageous battle with Parkinson's disease.

Born on January 5, 1945, Margaret was raised in New Bedford, the daughter of Clinton Rimmer and Anita (Rogers) Rimmer. She was the devoted wife of Thomas Ferreira for nearly 60 years.

Margaret grew up on Mount Pleasant Lane in New Bedford with her four sisters, with whom she shared cherished holidays, birthdays, date nights, and vacations throughout her lifetime. Her childhood home became the center of Rimmer family celebrations for decades as the sisterhood's families grew.

A proud 1960 graduate of Holy Family High School, Margaret later attended Cape Cod Community College, where she met her future husband, Tom. They soon married and began their own family story. Margaret loved the charm of Cape Cod in both summer and winter and developed a deep appreciation for the ocean and the serenity of Buzzards Bay and Vineyard Sound. She also enjoyed spending time at the lake in New Hampshire. She shared this love through many family outings to Cape beaches and restaurants, encouraging her children and grandchildren to explore and enjoy the region she held so dear.

Friendship was something Margaret truly treasured. Her friends meant a great deal to her, and she had a beautiful way of remembering shared moments, laughter, and meaningful conversations.

Margaret's career was focused in the utility industry, where she worked for both New England Telephone and Ever-source Energy. She valued the relationships and opportunities this work provided, including the chance to continue her education. In 1998, while working full time and attending night classes at Stonehill College, Margaret earned her Bachelor of Arts, a milestone achievement and a special moment for her.

Our mum was extraordinary in countless ways, with

a spirit and energy that seemed to know no limits. She could sing, play the piano, be an artisan baker, prepare gourmet meals, play tennis, run road races, and cheer us on, both on and off the field. She was our closest confidant, our spiritual pillar, and often the one who simply listened without judgment. She was the person you wanted beside you for every meaningful moment in life, and someone of whom we are incredibly proud. She loved skiing at Mt. Sutton in Canada and found great joy in hosting dinners where family and friends felt truly welcomed. She was immensely proud of her grandchildren and cherished every moment spent with them. She always looked forward to lunches at The Pasta House with her sisters, traditions filled with laughter and connection. She embraced life fully and, above all, treasured being with her family, which was always closest to her heart.

Margaret faced Parkinson's disease with strength and grace. Though the disease progressed, her spirit continued to shine through her bright blue eyes and her enduring love for family and friends. She was the light in our lives and will be missed dearly.

Margaret is survived by her four children: Mark and his wife Darlene of Winthrop; Jane Connolly of Sandwich; Kristen Ferreira of New Bedford; and Matthew and his wife Marisa of Richmond, Virginia. She was the proud and loving grandmother of seven grandchildren: Patrick, Sean, and Jack Connolly; Meghan Seguin-Ferreira; and Ben, Beau, and Brooke Ferreira. Margaret was predeceased by her son-in-law, Sean Connolly, whose memory remains a cherished part of the family.

Her Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Friday, February 13th at 11:00 AM in St. Anthony's Church, 26 Hammond St. Mattapoisett. For online guestbook, visit www.saundersdwyer.com.

If you have a notice you would like to have included in the Obituaries section, please contact our office at: 508 758-9055, or by email at office@wanderer.com.

Robert W. Smith. Holst's tone poem "Hammersmith", the last piece he composed for band, will also be performed.

The concert will be held at the Keith Middle School Auditorium, 225 Hathaway Boulevard, New Bedford, MA 02740. Adult tickets are \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door. Children aged 12 and under admitted free. Tickets may be purchased in advance at The Symphony Music Shop in Dartmouth, The Marion General Store in Marion or online at <https://tricontysymphonicband.org>.

Please visit tricontysymphonicband.org for more detailed information.

South Coast Children's Chorus Welcomes New Singers

The South Coast Children's Chorus is welcoming new singers for the upcoming spring season. SCCC is open to all students from grades 1-12. Thanks to the support of local cultural councils, the South Coast Community Foundation and generous donors, tuition is only \$125 for the year and there is free or reduced tuition for any singer who requests it.

The first rehearsal will take place on Tuesday, **February 24**. New singers are accepted during the first three weeks. Rehearsals take place on Tuesday nights, 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm (Preparatory Chorus) and 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm (Advanced Chorus) at Tabor Academy in the Fireman Center for the Performing Arts, 245 Front Street, Marion. To register visit the SCCC website at www.singsouthcoast.org.

The mission of the South Coast Children's Chorus is to provide a joyful, educational choral experience for young singers, helping them to develop responsibility, confidence, musicianship, and a passion for excellence in all they do. The SCCC core values are Service, Culture, Confidence & Community. SCCC performs throughout the South Coast with interesting musicians such as Candida Rose and the Kabu Jazz Ensemble, the New Bedford Harbor Sea Chantey Singers and with the internationally renowned African Children's Choir at venues including at AHA., the Zeiterion Performing Arts Center, The Children's Advocacy Network Gala, Big Sing Central, Salve Regina University in Newport and Fenway

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For more information contact: SCCCsings@gmail.com also, visit us on Facebook and Instagram @southcoastchildrenschorus.

Helping Ocean Innovation Move from Idea to Reality

Turning a clean energy idea into a working ocean technology is harder than it sounds. Before new tidal turbines, wave energy devices, or marine sensors can be used to power homes or protect coastal waters, they must be tested in real ocean conditions with strong currents, waves, saltwater, and changing weather.

The Marine Renewable Energy Collaborative of New England (MRECo) is helping make that possible by developing and improving two ocean testing sites in Massachusetts: the Bourne Tidal Test Site (BTTS) in the Cape Cod Canal and the Cuttyhunk Test Range (CTR) off Cuttyhunk Island.

Together, these sites give innovators a safe, affordable, and permitted way to put new ocean technologies into the water bridging the gap between lab experiments and real-world use.

The Bourne Tidal Test Site, located in the Cape Cod Canal, is a sturdy platform built specifically for testing tidal energy devices and marine sensors in fast-moving water. The site allows engineers and researchers to see how their technology performs in strong tidal

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TriTOWN HAPPENINGS



Snowman and moonlight at Ned's Point. Photos by Jennifer Shepley



On February 4, the Marion Natural History Museum's afterschool group learned a few things about our most common backyard birds with Carol Molander of the Nasketucket Bird Club. In preparation for the Great Backyard Bird Count (February 13 and February 16), the kids received their own mini-guides showing images of the birds and also listened to their very distinct calls. When we ventured outside, the kids were the first to see a red-tailed hawk circling overhead. We also saw a European starling, American crow, American robin, house sparrow and American herring gull. Many thanks to Carol for lending her expertise, and her patience, to our group of young birders. Photos courtesy Elizabeth Leidhold



These photos and more are available online at www.wanderer.com

currents, while still being close to shore and easy to access. Because the site is already fully permitted, companies can focus on improving their technology instead of spending years navigating regulatory hurdles.

Planned upgrades to the Bourne site will allow for faster testing, real-time data sharing, and improved safety, which makes it even easier for new ideas to move forward.

Off the coast of Cuttyhunk Island, MRECo is also developing the Cuttyhunk Test Range, a location designed for testing floating devices and wave energy systems. This area experiences ocean waves similar to those found near offshore wind farms along Massachusetts' South Coast. The site will include permanent moorings, power access, and monitoring equipment to help developers understand how their technologies perform in open-water conditions.

These efforts are part of a larger push to grow Massachusetts' ocean technology economy through the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center's (MassCEC) Ocean Innovation Network, a statewide initiative that connects startups, researchers, and businesses with the facilities, mentorship, and resources they need to bring new clean energy solutions to market. By investing in shared testing infrastructure like BTTS and CTR, MassCEC and its partners are helping ensure that promising ideas don't stall in the lab, and that Massachusetts remains a national leader in ocean-based climate and energy innovation.

"These test sites are about helping good ideas succeed," said John Miller, Executive Director of MRECo. "Many promising ocean technologies never make it past the drawing board because testing in the ocean is expensive and complicated. We're removing those barriers so innovators can safely test, learn, and improve."

MRECo is the only organization in Massachusetts focused on developing open-water test sites for tidal and wave energy and marine sensors. With decades of combined experience in ocean engineering and testing, MRECo works with startups, universities, and established companies to help new technologies reach the water faster and more affordably.

By supporting hands-on testing and innovation, the Bourne and Cuttyhunk sites are expected to attract companies from across the U.S. and beyond, create local economic opportunities, and strengthen Massachusetts' leadership in clean energy and ocean technology.

To learn more about the Bourne Tidal Test Site, the Cuttyhunk Test Range, or how MRECo helps bring ocean technology to life, visit www.mreconewengland.org.

Noah Greany's Legacy Blood Drive

March is Red Cross Month, a time to recognize more than 130 years of lifesaving work by American Red Cross volunteers. In that spirit, the community is invited to roll up a sleeve and help save lives at a Red Cross Blood Drive on Saturday, **March 7**, from 9:00 am to 1:30 pm at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 57 Fairhaven Road,

www.wanderer.com

Mattapoisett. The blood drive is sponsored by the Noah Curtis Greany Foundation and honors Noah.

Greany's Legacy, inspired by Noah's childhood dream to "find the cure for cancer" and improve survival rates for patients. Through blood donation, that dream continues to make a real difference.

The drive also honors Noah's uncle, Joe Corazzini, who is battling a rare and terminal autoimmune disease known as VEXUS. Joe has required numerous blood transfusions over the past six months and depends on donations from the community blood bank. Without these transfusions, his family says he would not be alive today.

According to the American Red Cross, someone in the United States needs blood every two seconds. Blood donations are critical for accident and burn victims, heart surgery and organ transplant patients, and individuals receiving treatment for cancer, leukemia, and sickle cell disease. All blood types are needed.

Community members can help save lives and honor Noah's legacy by scheduling an appointment at RedCrossBlood.org using sponsor code MATTAPOISETTLEGACY, or by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Giving blood is a simple act that can mean everything to someone in need.

Sippican Woman's Club Scholarship

The Sippican Woman's Club is pleased to announce that it will award four Scholarships, each up to \$2,500, to graduating high school seniors who reside in Marion. Scholarships are based on academic achievement, co-curricular involvement, community service, and financial need.

One recipient will also receive the \$500 Lu Chevrier Award, presented to a student who plans to pursue teaching or has demonstrated a commitment to teaching through tutoring or mentoring. The award honors Lu Chevrier, a former President of the Club and longtime board member.

In addition, the Club will award eight Renewal/Continuing Education Scholarship awards, each up

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to \$500, to Marion residents currently enrolled in a post-secondary college or training program. These scholarships are intended to support students continuing their academic journey beyond their initial year of study, including current college students - as well as individuals pursuing career-advancing coursework, professional certifications, or trade and technical programs. The Club is proud to support lifelong learning and educational advancement at all stages.

Applications are available at www.sippicanwomansclub.org and through the guidance departments at Old Rochester Regional High School, Tabor Academy, Falmouth Academy, Bishop Stang High School, Old Colony Regional Technical High School, and Upper Cape Cod Regional Technical High School. Applications must be received by **April 15**.

The Club also presents the Alice Ryder Book Award to the highest-ranking 8th grade English student. Alice Ryder served as President of the Sippican Woman's Club three times and authored *Lands of Sippican*, a history of Marion, Rochester, and Mattapoisett.

Founded in 1887, the Sippican Woman's Club is a nonprofit organization dedicated to social, educational, and humanitarian initiatives. Through year-round programming, community outreach, fundraising efforts and generous local business sponsors, the Club proudly

supports local students and the Marion community.

Women who live in Marion or have an interest in Marion are welcome to join. Membership information is available at www.sippicanwomansclub.org.

Rochester Historical Society News

A reminder that we're looking for membership dues from new, former or current members. This is a slow time of year for us, at least in terms of meetings (we are diligently working behind the scenes and always available), but that doesn't stop some of our bigger bills from coming in. Think oil and insurance. That means any dues money would come in handy.

Dues should be sent to: Rochester Historical Society, PO Box 322, Rochester, MA 02770. Individual is \$20, Family is \$20, Curator \$50, Patron \$75, Preservationist \$100 and supporter \$-.00.

Please include name, address, phone number and if possible, email address. Thanks, and I hope everyone is staying warm.

Mattapoisett Cultural Council Grant Recipients

The Mattapoisett Cultural Council is pleased to announce the awarding of grants to 34 local and regional

TRI-TOWN POLICE LOGS



MARION

Log highlights Feb 1 – Feb 7

- Washburn Park Rd – Animal bite
- Front St – MV collision
- Converse Rd – EMS/medical
- Mill St – MV collision
- Mill St – Abandoned property
- Ryders Ln – MV stop/citation
- Wareham Rd – Lockout
- Emil's Way – Health/welfare
- Wareham Rd – MV collision
- Holly Pond Rd – EMS/medical
- Delano Rd – General offense
- Spring St – EMS/medical
- 195 East – MV collision
- Barnabas Rd – MV collision
- Water St – General service
- Wareham Rd – MV collision
- Mill St – MV collision
- Wareham Rd – Officer wanted
- Oakdale Ave – EMS/medical
- Delano Rd – General service
- Mill St – Health/welfare
- Mill St – Fraud
- Cove Cir – Suspicious person
- Dexter Rd – Disturbance/family
- Blueberry Way – EMS/medical
- Village Dr – Officer wanted
- Point Rd – MV collision
- Cross Neck Rd – Fire/vehicle
- Mill St – EMS/medical

MATTAPOISETT

Log highlights Feb 1 – Feb 7

- Wildwood Ter – Medical alarm
- Prince Snow Cir – Animal control
- Silver Shell Ave – General service
- Crestfield St – General service
- Fairhaven Rd – Suspicious MV
- Nantucket Dr – Follow up
- Bay St – Restraining order
- Holly St – Suspicious persons
- Acushnet Rd – Unattended death
- Wildwood Ter – Medical alarm
- Henshaw Rd – Animal control
- Melissa Anne Ln – Suspicious MV
- County Rd – MV lockout
- Shaw St – MV crash
- Cove St – Medical assist
- Shaw St – Parking complaint
- Wildwood Ter – Medical assist
- Tupola Ln – Vandalism
- Marion Rd – Health/welfare
- Fairhaven Rd – MV violations
- County Rd – MV crash
- Waterman St – Parking complaint
- Pine Island Rd – Health/welfare
- Marion Rd – MV violations
- Marion Rd – Unwanted person
- Fieldstone Dr – Medical assist
- Water St – Animal control
- Marion Rd – MV crash
- Brandt Island Rd – MV crash

ROCHESTER

Log highlights Feb 1 – Feb 7

- Cranberry Hwy – Parking complaint
- Williams Way – Assist other agency
- Sarah Sherman Rd – Assist other
- Walnut Plain Rd – Suspicious activity
- Noble Rd – 911 call
- Snipatuit Rd – Noise complaint
- New Bedford Rd – Erratic MV
- Negus Way – Fire alarm
- Cranberry Hwy – Fraud
- Neck Rd – Burglar alarm
- Hathaway Pond Cir – Well-being
- Cushman Rd – Animal control
- Mattapoisett Rd – Suspicious activity
- County Rd – MV collision
- Walnut Plain Rd – Road hazard
- Coombs Rd – Inside gas leak
- Dexter Ln – Firearms licensing
- Marys Pond Rd – MV collision
- New Bedford Rd – Inside smoke
- North Ave – MV stop/citation
- Dexter Ln – Medical
- Cushman Rd – Animal control
- Jasons Ln – Animal control
- Cushman Rd – General services
- Marys Pond Rd – MV stop/citation
- Snipatuit Rd – 911 call
- Neck Rd – Animal control
- Braley Hill Rd – Panic alarm
- Snipatuit Rd – Disturbance/arrest

For a full PDF of the three towns' police logs from the past week, including arrest reports, visit www.Wanderer.com.

applicants for the 2026 cycle. This year's funding supports a wide range of initiatives in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences, contributing to the cultural vitality of the South Coast.

"We are honored to support such a wide variety of initiatives that enrich the cultural life of our community," said Jeanne Hopkins, Chair of the Mattapoisett Cultural Council. "The 34 projects selected for 2026 reflect a deep commitment to lifelong learning and the arts, ensuring that Mattapoisett remains a vibrant hub for creativity."

The Mattapoisett Free Public Library is a major focus of this year's funding, with seven diverse grants awarded to support programs for all ages. These include:

-Literary & Educational Series: The "Our Stories, Your Stories" author series and a Step-By-Step Painting Class.

-Youth & Family Engagement: Interactive programs including "Captain Luca's Pirate Adventure," "Big Ryan's Tall Tales," "Escape from the Terrible Thicket," and a Needle Felted Cactus workshop.

-Health & Wellness: Family Yoga with Sara DaCosta.

Other 2026 grant recipients and their projects include:

-Mattapoisett PTA: Bringing Local White Shark Science to the Classrooms.

-Mattapoisett Historical Society: Celtic Concert at

the Mattapoisett Museum.

-Town of Mattapoisett: Seahorse Explorer Summer Program.

-New Bedford Roots and Branches Festival 2026.

-Mini Big Top: A Mini Circus for Mini Readers.

-New Bedford Fishing Heritage Center: In the Wake: Magnuson Stevens Act at 50.

The 2026 grant determinations were made by the volunteer members of the Mattapoisett Cultural Council: Gary Brown, Carole Clifford, Barbara Poznysz, Janet Coquillette, Joanna MacDonald Ingham, James Rottler, Christopher Brennan, and Jeanne Hopkins.

This funding is made possible through the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency, and the Town of Mattapoisett. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), all funded programs must be accessible to people with disabilities.

For a full list of winners or for more information about the Local Cultural Council (LCC) program, please contact Jeanne Hopkins at jeanne.hopkins@gmail.com.

From the Files of the Rochester Historical Society By Connie Eshbach

We know from reading local history that Rochester's militia were called up in response to alarms in a variety of places. We also know from Abraham Holmes' memoirs that he was part of a militia that engaged with

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Thursday February 12, 2026

7:00 AM Seniorize
7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape
8:00 AM Marion Veg - with Barbie Burr and Brooke Johnson
8:30 AM Sippican Historical Society Oral History - Cynthia Bryden
9:30 AM Mattapoisett Women's Club Speaker Series - 75th Anniversary Documentary
10:00 AM Rochester Historical Society - An Ancestor Search
11:00 AM Mattapoisett Rail Trail
11:30 AM Tabor Academy
Sesquicentennial Documentary
12:00 PM What's Linda Cooking?
12:30 PM Cooking Healthy with Coastline
1:00 PM The Human Truth with Chuck McIntyre
1:30 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show
2:00 PM The Collective Chat
2:30 PM The Jeannine Hunt Experience
3:00 PM MAC Jazz Jam
4:30 PM Tri-County Symphonic Band - Christmas Concert
6:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Euromaxx
6:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Tomorrow Today
7:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Global US
7:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Focus on Europe
8:00 PM Teach Your Home Energy Costs! with David Green
9:30 PM Marion Natural History Museum - The Famed Bird
11:00 PM Classic Movie

Friday February 13, 2026

7:00 AM Seniorize
7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape
8:00 AM Deutsche Welle - Euromaxx
8:30 AM Deutsche Welle - Tomorrow Today
9:00 AM Deutsche Welle - Global US
9:30 AM Deutsche Welle - Focus on Europe
10:00 AM Southcoast Matters
11:00 AM Mattapoisett Rail Trail
11:30 AM Tabor Academy

Sesquicentennial Documentary

12:00 PM What's Linda Cooking?

12:30 PM Cooking Healthy with

Coastline

1:00 PM Rochester Affordable

Housing Inc ADU Presentation

2:00 PM The Human Truth with

Chuck McIntyre

3:30 PM The Collective Chat

3:00 PM The Jeannine Hunt

Experience

3:30 PM Marion Veg - with Barbie

Burr and Brooke Johnson

4:00 PM Sippican Historical Society

Oral History - Cynthia Bryden

5:00 PM Tri-Town Christmas Events

5:30 PM Tri-Town Veteran's Day

Events

7:30 PM Reeling: The Movie

Review Show

8:30 PM Paltrowitz with Darren

Paltrowitz

9:00 PM A Conversation With...

9:30 PM Fur, Fins and Feathers

10:00 PM For Your Health

10:30 PM Sidewalks Entertainment

11:30 PM Classic Movies

Saturday February 14, 2026

6:00 AM Saturday Morning Cartoon

Festival

9:30 AM Tri-County Symphonic

Band - Christmas Concert

11:00 AM Marion Veg - with Barbie

Burr and Brooke Johnson

11:30 AM Tri-Town Christmas

Events

12:00 PM Mid-Day Movie

2:00 PM Reeling: The Movie

Review Show

2:30 PM The Human Truth - with

Chuck McIntyre

3:00 PM The Collective Chat

3:30 PM The Jeannine Hunt

Experience

4:00 PM Sippican Historical Society

Oral History - Cynthia Bryden

5:00 PM Sippican Historical Society

- Celebrating the Archive

6:00 PM Marion Natural History

Museum - Native American

Archaeology

7:30 PM Reeling: The Movie

Review Show

8:30 PM Paltrowitz - with Darren

Paltrowitz

9:00 PM Sidewalks Entertainment

9:30 PM A Conversation with...

10:00 PM Beacon Hill Report

10:30 PM Gay USA

11:00 PM Classic Movies

Sunday February 15, 2026

7:00 AM Lamb of God Christian

Church

8:00 AM Mattapoisett

Congregational Church

9:00 AM First Congregational

Church of Rochester

10:00 AM St Gabriel's Church

11:30 AM Tabor Academy

Sesquicentennial Documentary

12:00 PM What's Linda Cooking?

12:30 PM Cooking Healthy with

Coastline

1:30 PM Deutsche Welle -

Euromaxx

2:00 PM Deutsche Welle -

Tomorrow Today

2:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Global

US

3:00 PM Two Grannies on the

Road

4:00 PM Miss New Bedford

5:00 PM Putnam Murdock Concert

at the Marion Art Center

7:00 PM ORR Girls Basketball vs

Somerset Berkley

8:00 PM ORR Boys Hockey vs

Somerset Berkley

9:30 PM ORR Girls Basketball vs

Apponequet

10:30 PM ORR Boys Basketball vs

Apponequet

11:30 PM Classic Movies

Monday February 16, 2026

7:00 AM Seniorize

7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good

Shape

8:00 AM Deutsche Welle -

Tomorrow Today

8:30 AM Deutsche Welle - Global

US

9:00 AM Reeling: The Movie

Review Show

9:30 AM Two Grannies on the Road

10:30 AM Miss New Bedford

11:00 AM For Your Health

11:30 AM Tabor Academy

Sesquicentennial Documentary

12:00 PM What's Linda Cooking?

12:30 PM Cooking Healthy with

Coastline

1:00 PM Beacon Hill Report

1:30 PM Southcoast Matters

2:30 PM Sidewalks Entertainment

3:00 PM Paltrowitz with Darren

Paltrowitz

9:00 PM Reeling: The Movie

Review Show

4:30 PM The Human Truth

5:00 PM Tri-County Symphonic

Band - Christmas Concert

6:30 PM Sidewalks Entertainment

7:00 PM Marion Veg - with Barbie

Burr and Brooke Johnson

7:30 PM Sippican Historical Society

- Dr. Michael Moore

8:30 PM Marion Natural

History Museum - Butterflies of

Southeastern Mass

9:30 PM The Collective Chat

10:00 PM The Jeannine Hunt

Experience

10:30 PM AMC Outdoor Journey

Fund

11:00 PM Classic Movie

Tuesday February 17, 2026

7:00 AM Seniorize

7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In

Good Shape

8:00 AM For Your Health

8:30 AM Reeling: The Movie

Review Show

9:00 AM Sidewalks Entertainment

9:30 AM Mike Paige Doodle Club

10:00 AM Saturday Morning

Cartooning

10:30 AM The Collective Chat

11:00 AM The Jeannine Hunt

Experience

11:30 AM In the Toy Box

12:00 PM What's Linda Cooking?

12:30 PM Cooking Healthy with

Coastline

1:00 PM Point Road Park

Renaming Ceremony

1:30 PM Miss New Bedford Insider

2:00 PM The Human Truth with

Chuck McIntyre

2:30 PM Deutsche Welle -

Tomorrow and Today

3:00 PM Deutsche Welle -

Euromaxx

3:30 PM Two Grannies on the

Road

4:30 PM Teach Your Home Energy

Costs!

6:00 PM Putnam Murdock Concert

at the Marion Art Center

8:00 PM The Beacon Hill Report

8:30 PM Pete on the Street

9:00 PM Reeling: The Movie

Review Show

10:00 PM Gay USA

11:00 PM Classic Movie

Wednesday February 18, 2026

7:00 AM Seniorize

7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In

Good Shape

8:00 AM Cape Conversations

8:30 AM For Your Health

9:00 AM Two Grannies on the

Road

10:00 AM Sidewalks Entertainment

10:30 AM Paltrowitz with Darren

Paltrowitz

11:00 AM Mattapoisett

Congregational Church

12:00 PM What's Linda Cooking?

12:30 PM Cooking Healthy with

Coastline

1:30 PM Southcoast Matters TV

2:00 PM Marion Veg - with Barbie

Burr and Brooke Johnson

2:30 PM Money Matters

3:00 PM A Conversation With...

4:00 PM Tri-Town Veteran's Day

Events

6:00 PM Building the Future

6:30 PM Pete on the Street

7:00 PM World Fusion Show

7:30 PM Tri-County Symphonic

Band - Christmas Concert

9:00 PM Teach your Home Energy

Costs! With David Green

10:30 PM Mattapoisett Women's

Club Speaker Series - Jack

Matthews

11:00 PM Classic Movies

MARION

GOVERNMENT

Comcast Channel 26

Verizon Channel 39

Daily Schedule

7:00 AM Marion Board of

Selectmen

9:00 AM Marion Planning Board

10:30 AM Marion Board of Health

11:30 AM Marion Open Space

Acquisition Commission

12:30 PM Marion Finance

Committee

2:30 PM Marion Water and Sewer

Commission

4:30 PM Marion Conservation

Commission

5:00 PM Marion Marine Resource

Commission

6:30 PM Marion Zoning Board of

Appeals

7:30 PM Marion School Committee

9:00 PM ORR School Committee

10:00 PM ORR Joint School

Committee

ROCHESTER

GOVERNMENT

Comcast Channel 26

Verizon Channel 40

Daily Schedule

7:00 AM Rochester Board of

Selectmen

8:30 AM Rochester Planning Board

10:00 AM Rochester School

Committee

11:30 AM ORR School

Committee

12:30 PM Old Colony Building

Discussion

4:00 PM ORR Joint School

Committee

6:00 PM Rochester Board of

Selectmen

8:30 PM Rochester Planning Board

9:00 PM Rochester Conservation

Commission

10:00 PM Rochester Select Board

10:30 PM Rochester Zoning Board

of Appeals

EDUCATION

CHANNEL

Comcast Channel 8

Verizon Channel 37

the British as close to Rochester as Fairhaven. However, we rarely think about British soldiers actually being here in Rochester.

Reading through the "PAL" books (created during an architectural survey of some of our oldest houses), I came across an interesting property, a residence known as "Bonney Doone." This house was once located at 86 Dexter Lane. It was named after George Bonney, Jr., an ancestor of the George Bonney who lived at 7 Marion Rd.

History doesn't tell us the name of the first person who lived in the house (possibly Joseph Doty), but it does tell us that there were British troops in town. It was said that the house and outbuildings were used as a "refuge" for British soldiers during the war. According to local legend, a small group of said soldiers asked for one night of shelter in one of the outbuildings. They were gone when the sun came up but left "a brooch as a gift to the lady of the house for her hospitality."

It would seem that Rochester was fortunate to be a town the troops



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passed through rather than one in which they created an encampment. However, I want to know more. Why did they have a "brooch" and what happened to it. Did the lady of the house have Tory leanings and was that why the soldiers were so polite. Chances are those questions won't get answered, but it's interesting to think about.

Bonney Doone didn't make it to a map until 1865, but the maps do show that it belonged to the Bonney family through 1879. By 1916, it was owned by E. LeBaron Bowen, a plumber, until 1941. It remained in the Bowen family until 1969.

As Susan La Fleur wrote as part of the house's narrative in the survey, the house "stood empty for some time and was in a state of disrepair". It was finally

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ACROSS

- 1 "Thank U, Next" singer Grande
7 Yachts, e.g.
12 Keto dieter's nutrient calculation
20 Right-rear bowling target
21 Like Viking script
22 Call to have food delivered
23 Chief justice before William Rehnquist
25 Runaway
26 Fruity drink
27 Reclined
28 Actress Russo
30 Chaplin of "Game of Thrones"
31 Makeovers
33 Application to improve blood flow
39 Stew legume
41 Glazer of "Broad City"
42 Gold, in Italy
43 Person not getting deserved acclaim

- 48 Chilly tourist lodge
53 New Mexico art mecca
54 Old New York theater
55 Whirled
58 To a greater extent
59 Phased-out cartoon storekeeper
60 Greek cheese
61 Easels, e.g.
63 Susa's ancient land
64 Take care of William
66 Bikers' association
70 Tunes for two
72 Permissible
73 Tiny bits
74 Curveball that breaks over the plate at the very last second
78 Wine vessel
81 Wrinkly tangelo
82 "Joan of Arc" actress
83 Acorn trees
85 Grassy tract
86 Wrecked
89 Santa — (some winds)
90 Agra dress

- 91 Feels ill
92 Hip-hop band
94 Thaw after winter
96 Roadhouse
97 Writer Wilde
100 "Fancy that!"
101 Pilot's heading indicator
108 Newton who was knighted
112 Met solo
113 Fishing rod
114 \$5 bills, slangily
116 H.S. lab class
117 "The Velvet Fog"
121 Its menu might include the ends of seven answers in this puzzle
125 Web pop-up, e.g.
126 Be of help to
127 King of pop
128 Salted-away sums of money
129 Mails in, e.g.
130 Isis' brother

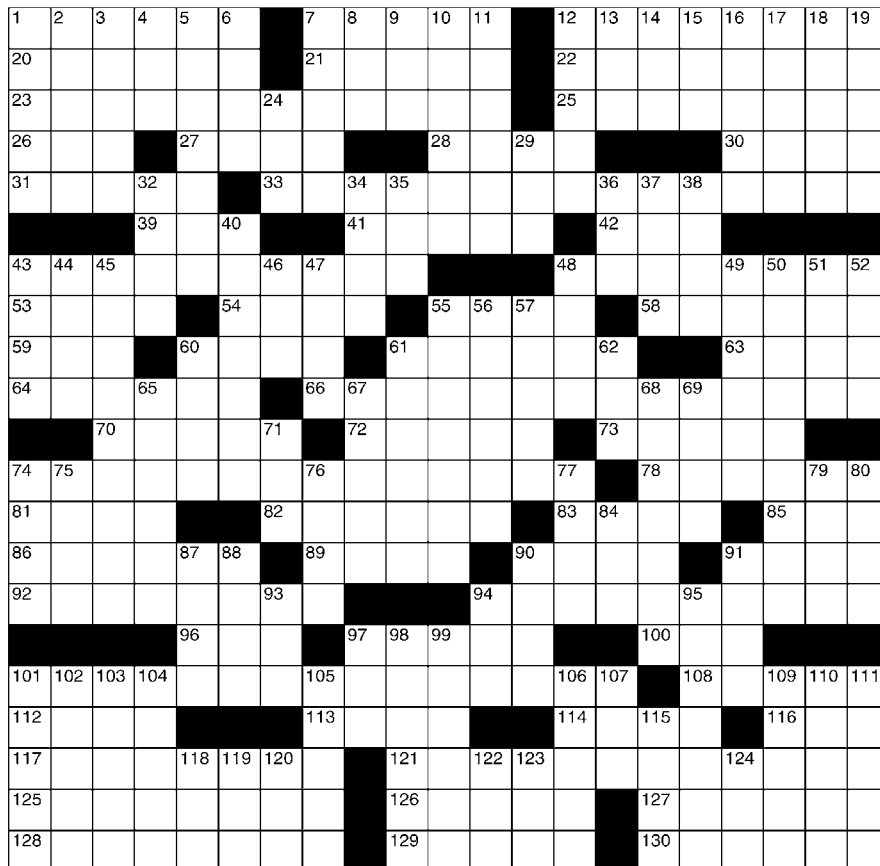
DOWN

- 1 In combat
2 Novelist Charles

- 3 Way to mark losses
4 Fourth mo.
5 TV ratings name
6 Chlumsky of "Veep"
7 Musical Mars
8 "— Gang"
9 Filmmaker Lee
10 — del Fuego
11 TV part
12 Center points
13 Previous to
14 NFL goals
15 OK grade
16 Bow go-with
17 Turbine part
18 — Vista, Mexico
19 Purse piece
24 Pen brand
29 U.S. intel org.
32 Musical work
34 Like swamps
35 Gp. in the Arab League
36 Quadrennial games org.
37 City near Provo
38 NYC area near the Village
40 Go along with
43 37-Down's state

- 44 Wine valley of California
45 Brief audio file
46 All the rage
47 Midterm, e.g.
48 "500" race
49 Mine vehicle
50 Prevaricates
51 Genesis twin
52 Bausch & —
55 Cheap cigars
56 St. Patrick's Day event
57 "I give up!"
60 Absconded
61 — Artois
62 — -fi flick
65 — it out (fighting)
67 Mary-Kate of "Beastly"
68 Latching, e.g.
69 LGA info
71 Fa-la linkup
74 Aaron in "Hamilton"
75 Water, in Chihuahua
76 Get in return
77 Mimic a lion
79 Descended
80 Toward dawn
84 Actress Nicole — Parker
87 Funny Idle

- 88 Fail to
90 Agile
91 City in Iowa
93 Half of bi-
94 Sink down
95 Hired
Japanese hostesses
97 Yoko of "Two Virgins"
98 Taco toppers
99 Split with an ax, say
101 Actor Matt
102 Actress Ryan
103 Small brooks
104 Absorb the loss, in slang
105 Opinion pieces
106 Lou who won three Grammys
107 Japanese sash
109 Hate
110 Garlic mayo
111 Makes do
115 Danish shoe brand
118 Undivided
119 Rule, informally
120 "Zine
122 Delhi bread
123 Carried out
124 — Lanka



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SALOME'S STARS

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) A gracious Lamb can learn more about a problem-filled situation than one who is openly suspicious of what could be happening. A friend might offer some well-directed advice.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Getting adjusted to an unexpected change might be difficult for the Bovine, who prefers things to go according to plan. But help could come from a most welcome source.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) This could be a good time to get a head start on some career-related plans. The sooner you check out the pluses and minuses, the sooner you can act on your information.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A personal situation that you thought would no longer present a problem could suddenly produce some surprises. Try to sort things out with the help of your trusted colleagues.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) An upcoming move holds both anticipation and anxiety for LEOs and LEONas who have some big decisions to make. Advice is plentiful, but it's up to you to decide which way you want to go.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Someone from a previous project could provide valuable guidance on how to handle a current problem, especially where it might involve a legal matter.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) A business situation presents some unexpected complications. But rather than trying to handle them all at once, it would be best to deal with them one at a time.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You just might get what you want despite the odds against it. In any event, be sure to thank all the people involved who believed in you and went to bat for you.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Before you even hint at an accusation, remember that you'll have to prove what you say. So, be sure that you have what you need to back up your comments.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) A romantic situation takes an unexpected turn that favors some Sea Goats but causes others to reassess how they've been handling the relationship.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) A surprise turn of events could unsettle the Water Bearer. But it might also help to open up an entirely different way of working out an important matter.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) A smoothly running operation could bump up against an obstacle. This is where your ability to assess situations and make adjustments can restore things to normal.

BORN THIS WEEK: Your kindness is legendary, and so is your strong sense of responsibility. You most likely do well in humanitarian efforts.

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sold and the new owner dismantled it and took it to Mattapoisett, leaving an empty lot behind.

Marion Town Sticker Purchases

The following permits will be available for purchase in the Town Clerk's Office at the Marion Town House Annex, 14 Barnabas Road:

- Marion Resident Beach/Parking Permits.
- Marion Resident Transfer Station Permits.
- Marion Resident Guest Passes.
- Marion Shellfish Licenses.

These stickers will no longer be available at the Harbormaster Building.

February School Vacation Programs at the MAC

Registration for all February School Vacation camps with Benares Angeley for ages 7-10 at the Marion Art Center are now open. All classes are in the MAC Studio at 80 Pleasant St., Marion. Each session is \$35 for MAC members and \$40 for nonmembers.

Create, Color & Upcycle: Kids will turn words, colors and recycled treasures into bold, vibrant masterpieces. We'll explore fun, energetic artworks by modern artists to spark imagination and inspire our own wild, wacky, one-of-a-kind creations. Tuesday, **February 17** from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Arctic Animal Adventures: Kids will explore arctic animals, such as polar bears, penguins, and seals while making dioramas full of snowy landscapes and icy habitats. This hands-on class lets kids sculpt, paint, and build their own mini-arctic worlds, learning about animals and their environments while having tons of fun. Wednesday, **February 18**, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Patchwork and Paint Art Club: In this class, artists will combine paint, fabric, buttons, beads, and thread to design a bold, textured artwork all their own. Kids will explore layering, patterns, and creative problem-solving while turning everyday materials into art. Perfect for imaginative kids ready to level up their creativity and make something truly unique. Wednesday, **February 18**, 1:00 am to 3:00 pm.

For more information and registration, go to marionartcenter.org/events.

Town of Mattapoisett Scholarships

The Mattapoisett Scholarship Committee is offering two distinct scholarship awards each of up to \$1,500 to deserving and qualified applicants who complete our application process.

The Details are:

1. Mattapoisett Graduating Senior Award, Eligibility: Any Mattapoisett resident who is graduating from High School prior to July 1. Award(s): The total Scholarship Award amount is \$1,500. The Committee reserves the right to decide how many applicants will

receive a stipend that will, in total, not exceed the \$1,500 total. Requirements: Students should submit in addition to the application form their letters of recommendation, transcript and a cover letter addressing their aspirations and financial need. Submission Deadline: **April 17**.

2. Mattapoisett Continuing Education Scholarship. Eligibility: Any Mattapoisett resident who is reentering the academic world. They should be pursuing a post graduate degree, career advancing courses or trade certification. Award(s): The total Continuing Education Award amount is \$1,500. The Committee reserves the right to decide how many applicants will receive a stipend that will, in total, not exceed the \$1,500 total. Requirements: Applicants should submit their letter of recommendations, applicable transcript(s), any applicable course or training information and a cover letter addressing their aspirations and financial need. The committee shall take into consideration each recipients financial need, character, scholastic record, and involvement in community work as well as extracurricular activities. Successful applicants will be informed by **May 8**.

Blank and completed application forms are available at: Mattapoisett Town Hall, c/o Christine Richards, 16 Main Street, Mattapoisett, MA 02739, Phone: 508-758-4100, Email: crichards@mattapoisett.gov.

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Chimneys/Masonry Repaired



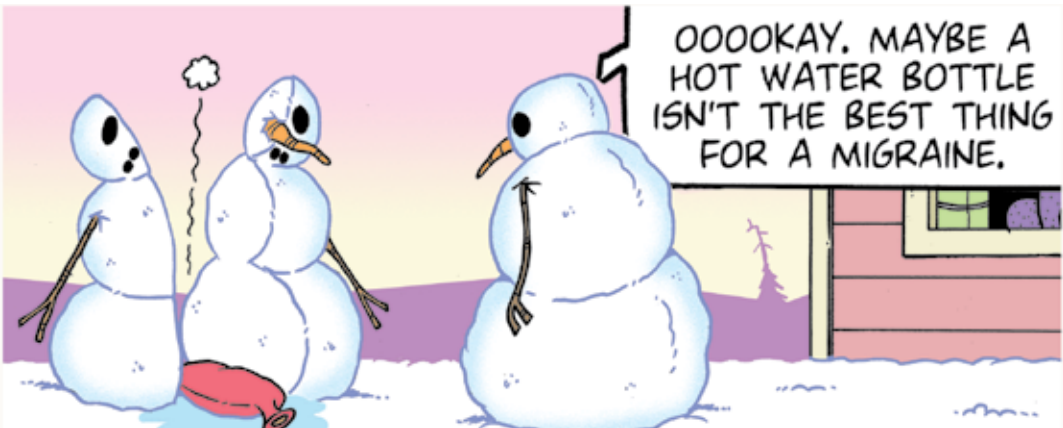
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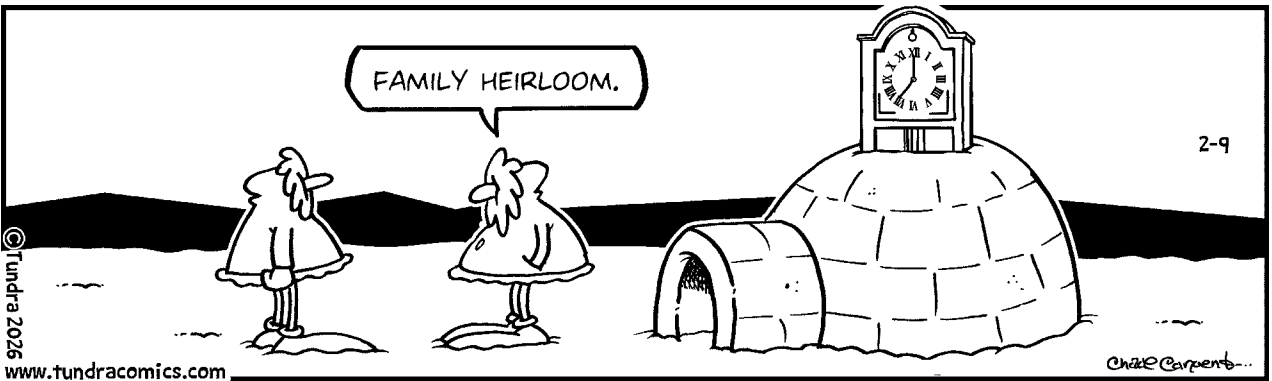
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Tundra
by Chad Carpenter

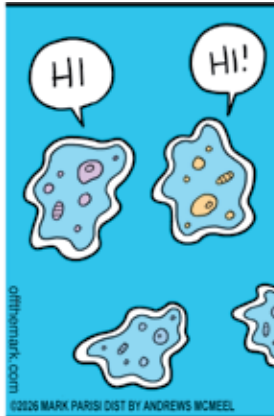
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2-9

Chad Carpenter



Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps



Valentine's Candidate Brunch

A free Valentine's Brunch will take place from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm on **February 14** where women and minorities in Marion can explore running for town offices. Here is an opportunity to create broader representation in town government. Women in particular are encouraged to come. We will invite women who have participated or have experience in local politics. You will have opportunities to meet with them to discuss their thoughts about being part of decision-making offices. These jobs affect every person and family in our community. Elections this year will be for Assessor, Select Board, Planning Board, ORR and Sippican school committees, and the Board of Health. You do not need previous experience in town government to apply. Information about each position will be available at the party.

The brunch will be held at 10 Cove Street, Marion, and those interested in coming should text a response with their name or call 603-759-9287.

Marion Democratic Town Committee

The Marion Democratic Town Committee will hold its caucus to elect delegates to the Massachusetts Democratic Convention at its monthly meeting on **February 19**. The meeting will begin at 5:30 pm in the Community Room, Marion Police Station, 550 Mill Street. All registered Marion Democrats are welcome to run for delegate positions. We will elect four delegates and four alternates. The convention will be held on May 29 and May 30 at the DCU Center, Worcester. This is a nominating convention, where delegates vote for Democratic candidates, so it is an important way for Democrats to participate in government.

Mattapoisett Land Trust Winter Break Activities

The Mattapoisett Land Trust has announced its schedule of Staycation Activities for the upcoming school winter break. All activities are free of charge and offer local families an opportunity to explore MLT properties and connect with nature. To find Staycation Activities, visit the MLT website mattlandtrust.org and explore the

Family Activities link on the left side of the page.

Starry Night is an opportunity for people of all ages to gaze at the night sky on the evening of Tuesday, **February 17**, at Grace Meadow-Santos Farm Preserve located off Aucoot Road at the end of Bowman Road in the eastern part of Mattapoisett. The event will feature speakers, telescopes, a small fire, and a children's craft. Plenty of parking will be available.

On Saturday, **February 21**, from 10:00 am to 11:30 am, a Forest Stewardship and Climate Resiliency Walk will be conducted by MLT forester Kate Marquis at Brandt Island Cove District Preserve. The walk starts at the Anchorage Way kiosk entrance at the corner of Tara Road and Anchorage Way.

Throughout the week families can enjoy nature-themed Scavenger Hunts at four MLT properties: Munn Preserve on Mattapoisett Neck Road near the stone pillars demarking the Antassawamock private community, Grace Meadow-Santos Farm Preserve, Dexter (Tub) Mill Park, and Dunseith Gardens. Our new Scavenger Hunts have a list of items to find, and individual finds can be documented with photos. For more information, see mattlandtrust.org/family-activities/. For trail maps of two of the properties, see: bit.ly/mlt_munn_map and bit.ly/mlt_oldaucoot_map.

The MLT is pleased to be partnering with the Mattapoisett Free Public Library on these projects. Themed MOBY backpacks, designed for many different



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MATTAPOISETT BOATYARD



Picture by Fran Grenon, spectrumphoto.org

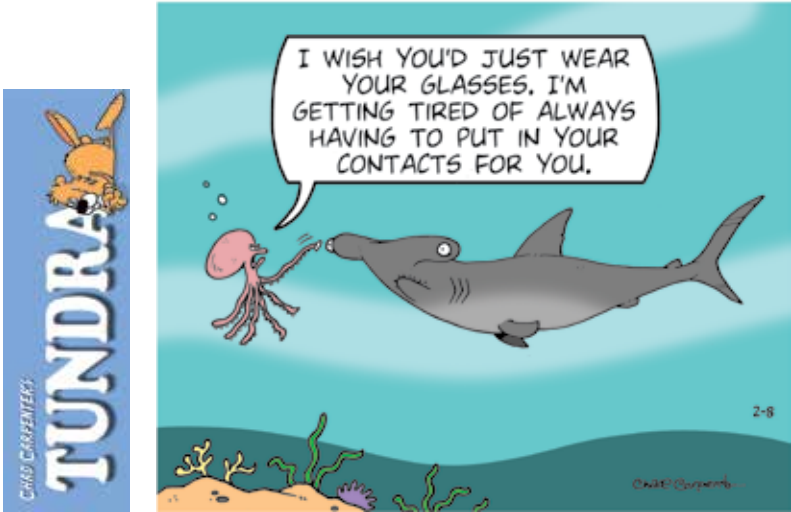
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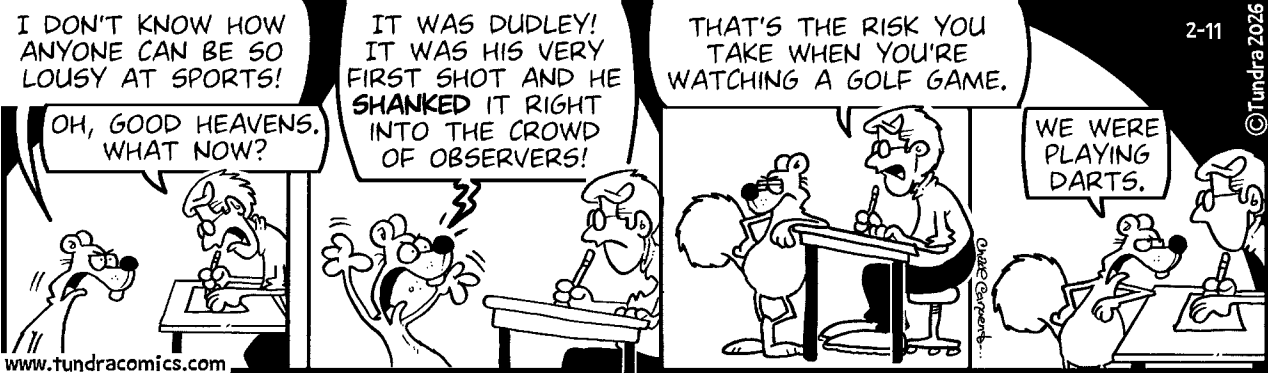
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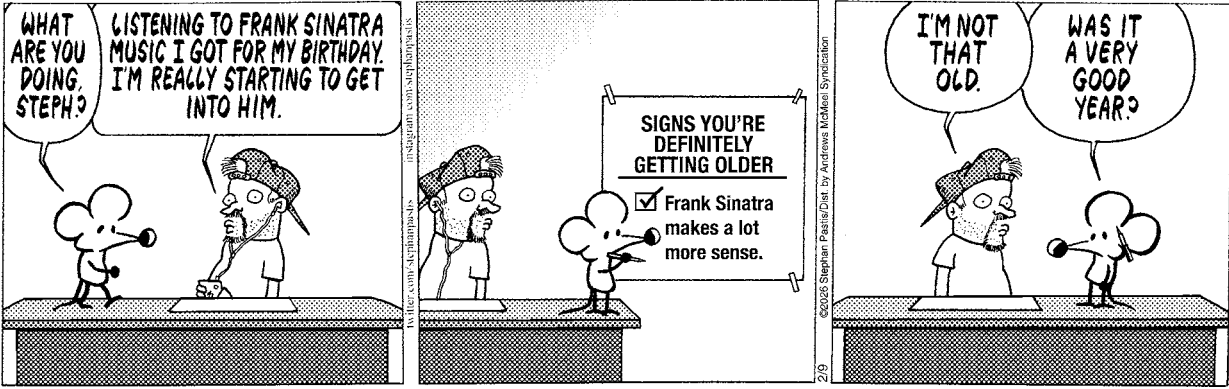
LEGAL NOTICES	LEGAL NOTICES	LEGAL NOTICES
TOWN OF ROCHESTER ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING #1232 Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing on the petition of Jacqueline Orlando, for property located at 246 New Bedford Rd, identified on Assessor's Map 2, Lot 8, who is seeking a Special Permit for a kennel license for up to fifteen (15) dogs, pursuant to Chapter 20.40, Section F.6., of the Rochester Zoning By-Laws. The public hearing will be on Thursday, February 26th, 2026, at 7:00 pm at Town Hall, 1 Constitution Way in Rochester, MA. Donald Spirlet, Chairman 2/5, 2/12 TOWN OF MATTAPOISETT CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING The Mattapoisett Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Monday, February 23, 2026 at 6:30 pm for a Notice of Intent submitted by Neil & Cynthia Musante, 4 Dyar Road, Assessors Map 12A, Lot 28, Mattapoisett, MA. The applicant proposes to install an elevator shaft to service the existing single-family dwelling. 2/12 Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Division of Wetlands and Waterways Southeast Regional Office 20 Riverside Drive Lakeville, MA 02347 508-946-2700 PUBLIC NOTICE Pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 1341 and M.G.L. c. 21 §§ 26 – 53, notice is given of a 401 Water	Quality Certification application for the rehabilitation of Long Wharf at 0 Town Wharf in Mattapoisett, MA by the Town of Mattapoisett, 16 Main Street, P.O. Box 435, Mattapoisett, MA 02739. Additional information may be obtained from Andrew Nilson at Childs Engineering, 34 William Way, Bellingham, MA 02019 by emailing Andrew.Nilson@childseng.com or calling 508-966-9092. Written comments should be sent to MassDEP Wetlands Program, Southeast Regional Office, 20 Riverside Drive, Lakeville, MA 02347 within twenty-one days of this notice. Any group of ten persons, any aggrieved person, or any governmental body or	private organization with a mandate to protect the environment who submits written comments may appeal the Department's Certification. Failure to submit written comments before the end of the public comment period may result in the waiver of any right to an adjudicatory hearing. 2/12 TOWN OF MARION CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING The Marion Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, <i>Continued on page 38</i>
		

Tundra
by Chad Carpenter



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PEARLS BEFORE SWINE
by Stephan Pastis



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nature adventures, are available in the library's Children's Department. Brochures, Scavenger Hunts, maps, and MLT Trail Passports can be picked up at the library also. Books about trails, trees, animals, and birds as well as snowshoes, trekking poles, binoculars, GoPro Hero 7 camera kit, and more items are available at the library to check out. For more information, see mattapoissettlibrary.org/explore-the-outdoors.

Marion Planning Board

The Marion Planning Board is currently seeking a qualified candidate to fill a recently vacated seat. The applicant will seek appointment for a temporary seat starting March 2 to May 15. Online applications are available on marionma.gov or you may complete a hardcopy at the Planning Board Office at the Marion Town House Annex, 14 Barnabas Road, no later than February 17, 2026. Any questions, please contact Doug Guey-Lee at dgueylee@marionma.gov or 508-748-3513.

Mattapoissett Nomination Papers

Nomination papers are now available for the 2026 Annual Town Election in Mattapoissett. There are many offices up for election this year including Town Clerk, Select Board, Assessor, Mattapoissett School Committee, ORR School Committee, Library Trustee, Moderator, Water & Sewer Commissioner, Board of Health, Planning Board, Housing Authority, and Community Preservation Committee. The deadline to request nomination papers is Friday, **March 27**. The Annual Town Election is scheduled for Tuesday, **May 19**. Please check the town website (www.mattapoissett.gov) or call the Town Clerk's Office at 508-758-4100 x 2 for more information.

Rochester Democratic Town Committee

The Rochester Democratic Town Committee is coordinating a non-perishable food drive to benefit local families in need. The drive will run through **February 15**. Collection boxes are located at Rochester Town Hall, Plumb Memorial Library, and Lloyd's Market, 8 Hartley Road. All donations will be delivered to Damien's Pantry in Wareham, whose mission is to help end hunger in the South Coast region of Massachusetts. Thank you for your generosity as we work together to support our neighbors facing food insecurity.

"Love Bird" Walk

Calling all bird lovers and lovebirds alike. Join Sippican Lands Trust and members of the Nasketucket Bird Club for this free program on **February 14** at 1:00 pm.

Winter is the best time to see many of our northern duck and waterbird species floating around Marion's harbors before their migrations to the north and Arctic.

We will start at Silvershell Beach in Marion and carpool to a few hot spots for bird views. Bring binoculars

and dress warmly for a tour of Marion's quiet waters.

To register or for more information, visit our website: Sippicanlandstrust.org/events

Summer Programs at the MAC

Registration for all summer camps at the Marion Art Center is open to MAC Members and to nonmembers on Friday, **February 13**.

ArtStart returns to the MAC for four weeks this summer. ArtStart is the MAC's summer art program for children ages 4 1/2 to 9 years, offered in June and July each year. ArtStart teachers are specialists in music, dance, theater, and art, most of whom teach throughout the year and are professionals in their fields. Activities include arts and crafts, theater, music, games, and storytelling.

The schedule for 2026 is:

Session 1 - Monday, June 29 to Friday, July 3.

Session 2 - Monday, July 6 to Friday, July 10.

Session 3 - Monday, July 13 to Friday, July 17.

Session 4 - Monday, July 20 to Friday, July 24.

The cost is: MAC Members: \$275 Nonmembers: \$315. More information is available at: marionartcenter.org/artstart.

Dungeons & Dragons: Our participants are immersed in a week-long journey of creative storytelling and thrilling improvisation with the Guild of Imagination's five-day Dungeons & Dragons



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LEGAL NOTICES

February 25, 2026, at 7:05 pm at the Marion Police Department Conference Room 550 Mill Street, also available via Microsoft Teams (Remote Participation Option), on a Notice of Intent, submitted by Creative Property Associates, LLC, for the construction of an accessory garage with an accessory dwelling unit (ADU) above and an upgraded septic system at 160 Allens Point Road.

The site is further identified as Lot 34A on Marion Assessors' Map 6. Plans are available at the Town House Annex for review.

Matthew Shultz, Chair

*Please contact Emma Sylvia at esylvia@marion-ma.gov for the Microsoft Teams link and for meeting information. The meeting will be live streamed on ORCTV. 2/12

TOWN OF MARION CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Marion Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, February 25, 2026, at 7:15 pm at the Marion Police Department Conference Room 550 Mill Street, also available via Microsoft Teams (Remote Participation Option), on a Notice of Intent, submitted by Jon Delli Priscoli, for demolition of the existing house and reconstruction of a new dwelling at 162 Point Road.

The site is further identified as Lot 15 on Marion Assessors' Map 1. Plans are available at the Town House Annex for review.

Matthew Shultz, Chair

*Please contact Emma Sylvia at esylvia@marion-ma.gov for the Microsoft Teams link and for meeting information. The meeting will be live streamed on ORCTV. 2/12

TOWN OF MARION CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Marion Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, February 25, 2026, at 7:25 pm at the Marion Police Department Conference Room 550 Mill Street, also available via Microsoft Teams (Remote Participation Option), on a Notice of Intent, submitted by the Town of Marion Department of Public Works, for the installation of a new water main to meet water demand in the area of Island Wharf Road.

The site is further identified as Lot 76 on Marion Assessors' Map 14. Plans are available at the Town House Annex for review.

Matthew Shultz, Chair

LEGAL NOTICES

*Please contact Emma Sylvia at esylvia@marion-ma.gov for the Microsoft Teams link and for meeting information. The meeting will be live streamed on ORCTV. 2/12

TOWN OF MARION CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Marion Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, February 25, 2026, at 7:30 pm at the Marion Police Department Conference Room 550 Mill Street, also available via Microsoft Teams (Remote Participation Option), on a Request for Determination of Applicability, submitted by Anne Crosby, for the removal of a tree at 15 Bayview Road.

The site is further identified as Lot 121 on Marion Assessors' Map 19. Plans are available at the Town House Annex for review.

Matthew Shultz, Chair

*Please contact Emma Sylvia at esylvia@marion-ma.gov for the Microsoft Teams link and for meeting information. The meeting will be live streamed on ORCTV. 2/12

Just Like Cats & Dogs

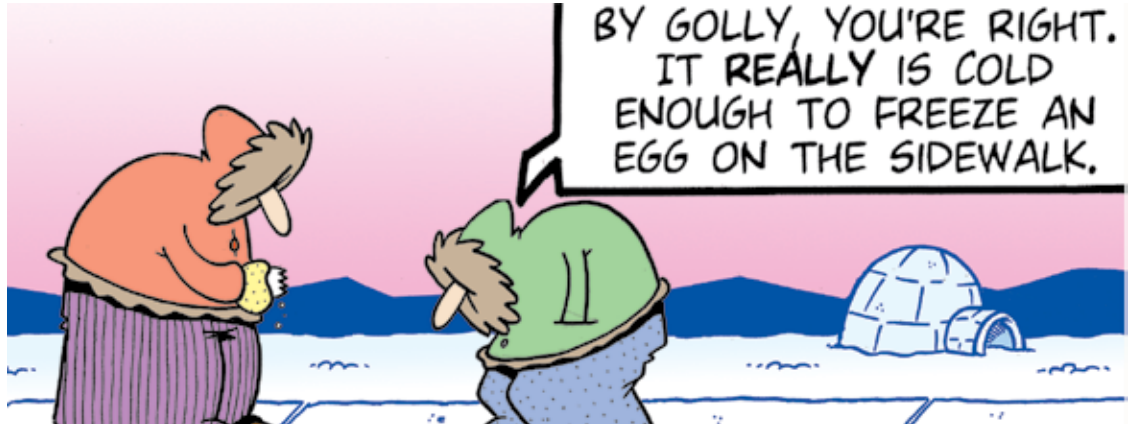
by Dave T. Phipps



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Don't forget to wish these people a Happy Birthday!

Alexis Mota	February 12
Dylan Pallatroni	February 12
Laura Eklund	February 12
Matthew Torres	February 12
Pauline M Romano	February 12
Trevor Oldham	February 12
Ty Evan MacKenzie	February 12
Caroline Thomas	February 13
Dan Eilertsen	February 13
Elijah Richards-Auld	February 13
Gary LeBlanc	February 13
Margaret Pullo Bresse	February 13
Zack Mourao	February 13
Jordan Collyer	February 14
Kaylan Setler	February 14
Mia O'Connor	February 14
Michael Coffey	February 14
Paul Gagnon Jr.	February 14
Valentyna Bindas	February 14
Bill Hargreaves	February 15
Dimitri Wrightington	February 15
Jayda Dorothy Fortin	February 15
Rosemarie Lopez	February 15
Abigail DuPont	February 16
DJ MacDonald	February 16
Lars McKim	February 16
Michael J. Casey	February 16
Michael Schroeder	February 16
Tanya Rottler	February 16
Brian Newcomb	February 17
Erik Stone-Kowalski	February 17
Marcia Gracia	February 17
Lupita Ann Lopes	February 17
Jack Hillier	February 18
Kayleigh M. Lake	February 18
Owen and Cameron Pepin	February 18
Samuel Philie	February 18
Tabi Dutra	February 18



program. Players will craft their own unique hero and embark on a fantastical adventure. With a focus on encouraging creativity, teamwork, and problem solving, Dungeons & Dragons ignites imaginations and nurtures storytelling skills. This unforgettable experience will forge friendships in a safe and supportive environment and create memories that will last a lifetime. Sessions run in late July and early August for ages 10-15. Learn more at marionartcenter.org/d-and-d.

All Things Art is an immersive weeklong program which takes place in late summer and is geared toward young artists ages 10-15. During their time in the Art Studio, young artists will experiment with a number of practices, techniques and media such as drawing, sculpting, printmaking, fiber arts, working with clay, and more. Learn how to talk about art making and what inspires one's creative choices.

The All Things Art Schedule for 2026:

Session 1 - Monday, August 3 to Friday, August 7.

Session 2 - Monday, August 10 to Friday, August

14.

Cost: MAC Members: \$275 Non-members: \$315, plus a \$45 materials fee per student each week. Classes meet in the MAC Studio 9:00 am to 12:30 pm each day. For more information and to register: marionartcenter.org/all-things-art.

All Things Theater is a weeklong theater intensive for preteens and teens ages 10-15. Young actors will learn from several instructors, many of whom are professional artists working in their fields. This interactive afternoon theater camp will showcase multiple facets of theater craft both on stage and behind the scenes. Activities may include acting, improvisation, costume creation, stage management, tech, and movement. Monday-Friday in the MAC Theater 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm each day. The 2026 Schedule is:

Session 1 - Monday, July 27 to Friday, July 31.

Session 2 - Monday, August 10 to Friday, August

14.

The cost for MAC Members is \$265 and for nonmembers it is \$305. For registration and more information go to marionartcenter.org/all-things-theater.

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email: cabadaaaa@verizon.net

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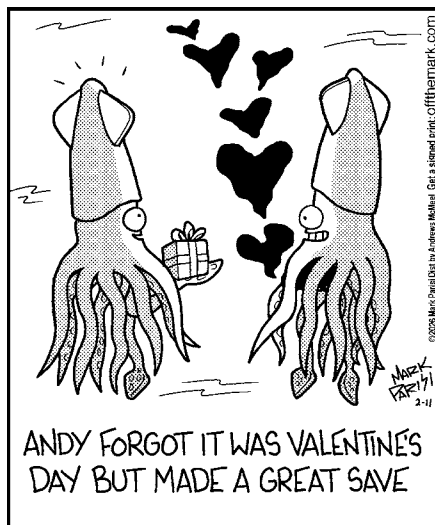
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off the mark by Mark Parisi



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Classified Deadline: Tuesday at 10:00 am for Thursday's paper.

Classified Rates:

Classified Advertisements are \$8.00 for 3 lines or less per week. Each additional line is \$1.00 per week. There are an average of six words per line. Bold is an addition \$1 per week.

Classified Guidelines:

*As a general rule, there are approximately six words per line in a standard Classified Ad.

*Blank lines cannot be used in Classified Advertisements.

*There is only upper case and lower case lettering.

*No graphics may be used in Classified Advertisements.

*Classified Ads cannot be placed on hold.

*Classified Ads cannot be taken over the phone.

Mailing Classified Ads: Ads can be mailed with payment to P.O. Box 102, Mattapoisett, MA 02739

Placing Classified Ads On-line: Ads can be placed on line at: www.wanderer.com

Dropping Off Classified

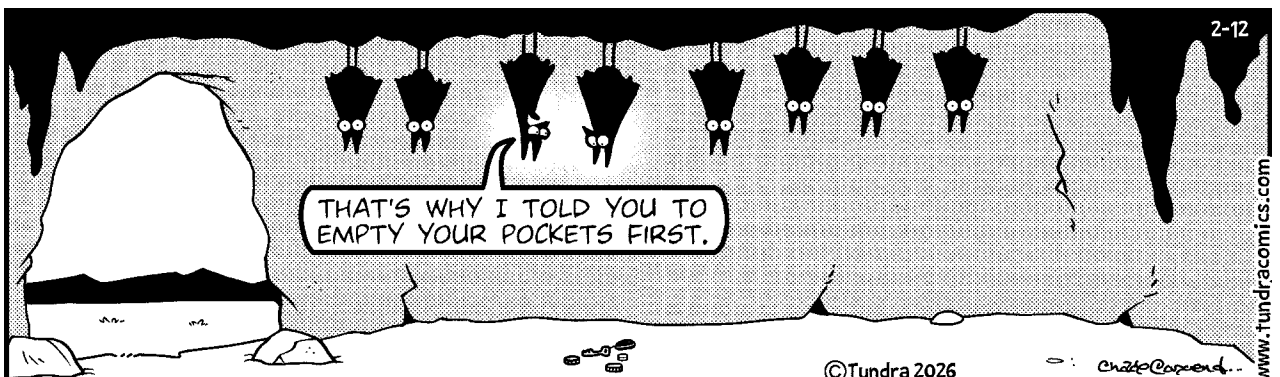
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Payment Policy: All sales final, we do not offer credits or refunds.

Legal Advertisements:

* Legal Ads are \$1.00 per line, at a minimum of \$25. per ad.

Tundra
by Chad Carpenter



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Chad Carpenter

www.tundracomics.com

Mattapoisett Woman's Club Scholarships

The Mattapoisett Woman's Club has announced two \$2,500 scholarships available to Mattapoisett residents who are high school seniors planning to continue full-time studies at the college level.

Scholarships are available in the guidance offices at Old Rochester Regional High School, Bishop Stang High School, Tabor Academy, Old Colony Vocational Technical High School, Bristol County Agricultural High School, and online at www.mattapoisettwomansclub.org (see Scholarships). Applications must be postmarked on or before **March 31**. Incomplete submissions or those received after the deadline will not be considered.

Our scholarships are made possible by fundraising events in our community. Membership in the Mattapoisett Woman's Club is open to any woman interested in furthering and supporting the philanthropic, academic, civic, and social goals of the organization.

ArtWeek SouthCoast

ArtWeek SouthCoast, the region's collaborative arts festival celebrating creativity across Southeastern Massachusetts, is gearing up for its 2026 return in May, and the newly launched website is now live at artweeksouthcoast.org. Artists, cultural organizations, municipalities, local businesses, and community groups are invited to submit events for inclusion in this year's festival schedule at artweeksouthcoast.org/submit-your-event.

ArtWeek SouthCoast takes place **May 8** thru **May 17** offering opportunities for residents and visitors to experience artists and cultural spaces throughout the region. The festival encourages a wide range of experiences, including hands-on workshops, live performances, gallery exhibitions, open studios, artist talks, family-friendly activities, and behind-the-scenes opportunities that invite the public to connect with the arts in meaningful ways.

"ArtWeek SouthCoast is about making creativity more visible and more connected across our communities," said Patti Rego, Director of Communications and Community Engagement at the

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SouthCoast Community Foundation, which is leading coordination efforts for the 2026 festival. "The Foundation has long supported arts and culture across the South Coast, and over the past decade, our Creative SouthCoast partnership with the Barr Foundation has deepened that commitment, allowing us to invest more intentionally in the people and places where cultural expression helps communities thrive."

This year's celebration will engage returning partners from Fall River, New Bedford, Dartmouth, Marion, Westport, Fairhaven, Mattapoisett, Somerset, and Wareham, while also welcoming new voices, new communities, and new creative leaders from across Southeastern Massachusetts, including Attleboro, Brockton, Taunton and neighboring cities and towns.

"New Bedford Creative has been involved with ArtWeek SouthCoast from the very beginning, and we continue to be inspired by how it champions the incredible talent of our region," said Margo Saulnier, Director, Creative Strategies at New Bedford Creative. "ArtWeek SouthCoast not only showcases artists - it invites the public to participate, explore, and experience arts and culture in unexpected ways. That sense of access and shared discovery is what makes this festival so impactful for our communities across the South Coast."

Plan Your ArtWeek Experience. With dozens of arts experiences expected across the region, ArtWeek SouthCoast invites the public to start exploring early,



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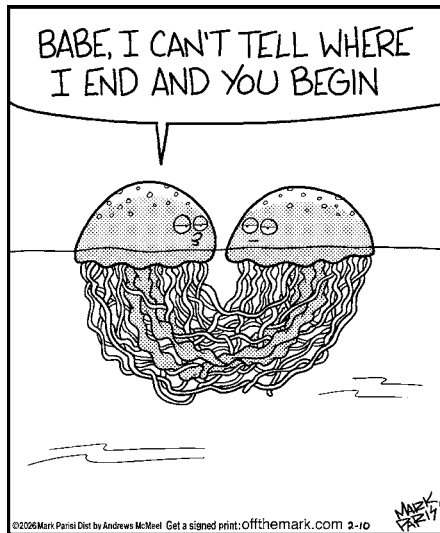
About the property:

- *Almost 1 acre of open, flat land
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off the mark by Mark Parisi



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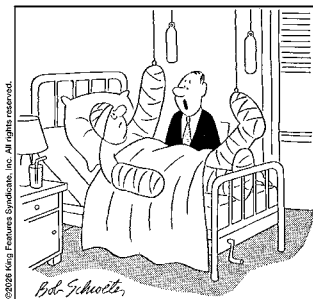
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		6				5	3	4
	1	3						7
	6		7				2	
		2					4	6
		4			8	7		
	3	8	4			9		
	2			1	7			5
6			9					

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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mark calendars, and plan their own path through performances, exhibitions, demonstrations, and opportunities to connect with local artists and cultural spaces.

"We look forward to this festival each year at the Marion Art Center. The MAC partners with artists and organizations across the South Coast to provide unique, accessible cultural experiences across the region," said Jodi Stevens, Executive Director at the Marion Art Center. During ArtWeek, there's truly something for everyone. From free concerts and creative workshops to performance and movement classes, ArtWeek offers creative experiences for all ages. It is such a privilege to be on the South Coast and to participate in this cultural community."

Events will continue to be added on an ongoing basis as submissions come in. To view the evolving schedule and learn more, visit artweeksouthcoast.org.

Mattapoisett Library Online Learning Platform to Empower Adults 55+

With the number of Americans aged 65 and older projected to increase by 24 million by 2050, MFPL is proud to announce the availability of Gale Presents: GetSetUp, a proven digital resource designed to support the growing needs of older adults across our community. According to the 2024 Active Aging Report, older adults are increasingly turning to digital tools for health, wellness, and lifelong learning, as evidenced by their participation in over 5.27 million GetSetUp online activities last year. To meet their needs, Mattapoisett Library is offering free access to this innovative platform built specifically for adults aged 55 and over.

"We're excited to bring this empowering resource to our patrons," said Amanda Lawrence, Adult Services Librarian. "GetSetUp helps older adults stay mentally sharp, socially connected, and physically active - all from the comfort of home."

Key Features of Gale Presents: GetSetUp:

- A rotating catalog of 5,000+ live and on-demand classes, short videos, and articles on topics like digital literacy, fitness, nutrition, mental wellness, travel, and retirement planning.

- Peer-led instruction by older adult educators who understand the unique learning styles of their audience.

- Built-in community features that foster social interaction and reduce isolation.

- Flexible, self-paced learning accessible on smartphones, tablets, and computers.

- Support from Helen, an AI assistant that helps users find classes, answer questions, and stay engaged.

Why It Matters Now:

- 28% (16.2 million) of older adults live alone, making social connections more critical than ever.

www.wanderer.com

-45.9% of GetSetUp surveyed users engage in daily physical activity, and many active agers are seeking new ways to stay healthy.

-Nearly 900,000 digital literacy classes were taken through GetSetUp in 2023 on topics including online banking, telemedicine, and smart device usage, showing a strong desire to stay informed and tech fluent in today's world.

Mattapoisett Library is committed to supporting the well-being of older adults in Mattapoisett by offering inclusive, accessible, and engaging resources. Whether aging patrons are looking to learn a new skill, connect with others, or simply stay active, GetSetUp has something for everyone. With practical, tech-focused classes like "Online Safety: Protect Your Personal Information" and "Using Your Android Smartphone," seniors can confidently navigate today's rapidly changing digital environment. At the same time, courses such as "Ease the Ache with Gentle Stretches for Back Pain" and "Brain Boost: Keeping Young with Music" can help older adults stay mentally sharp, physically active, and creatively inspired - all while connecting with peers who share their interests and experiences.

How to Access: Library cardholders can access GetSetUp for free by visiting mattapoisettlibrary.org/, clicking "Online Resources," and then "Online Learning." Scroll down to "GetSetUp by Gale." If you need

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SUBJECT TO RANDOM DRUG TESTING.
Fun and satisfying job!
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Average size room, 2 coats on walls, \$300
Excellent Tri-town references!
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Mattapoisett Laundromat WASH/DRY/FOLD SERVICE 82 County Road

LeBron Cleaning

Take advantage of our special discounts this month
Regular small \$120; med \$200; large \$250
Book now: 508-840-0484
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Licensed Electrician for all your electrical
needs,including Emergency Calls,also offering
Generator maintenance,repair and installation call
Paul Sarmento 508-979-8347landline

The Wanderer

The Wanderer is an independently
owned and published weekly
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Mattapoisett, Marion, Rochester and
the surrounding communities.

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News: news@wanderer.com

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(News) Monday at noon
(All Others) Tuesday at 10am

Office Hours:

Mon., Thur. & Fri. 9am-3pm
Tues. 9am - 12 noon

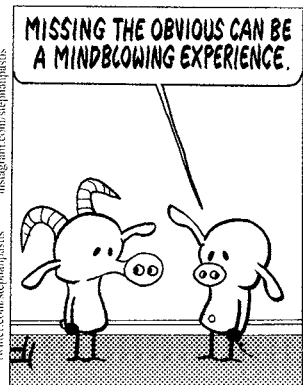
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PEARLS BEFORE SWINE by Stephan Pastis



assistance, please contact the library.

Please remember that a Mattapoisett library card is required to access this database outside of the library. If your card is missing, we can replace it. To avoid losing it again, download the SAILS mobile app. It's an excellent alternative to carrying your physical library card. Please see a librarian if you need help or have questions.

For more information, please visit us at 7 Barstow Street, online at www.mattapoisettlibrary.org, or call the library at 508-758-4171.

Marion Art Center

DATMA joins the Marion Art Center as they host the third installation of *Being Seen: Celebrating Pride in the SouthCoast*. Being Seen is a monumental community tapestry created by over 100 SouthCoast residents from Fall River to Wareham. Over an 18-month period, this work travels throughout the region, concluding in November 2026. The indoor exhibition expands on the public art installation with additional context, honoring the LGBTQIA+ community through stories, archival materials, and recognition of local advocates. The exhibition features the legacy of figures such as David B. Boyce (1949–2014), memorialized in George Segal's renowned sculpture The Gay Liberation Monument, as well as SouthCoast residents whose advocacy for Massachusetts's Marriage Equality Act helped shape national progress.

Call for Art: Answering Our Ancestors - The MAC announces an open call for art & ephemera that honors the joy, hopes, struggles, lives, and stories of the LGBTQIA+ community. Artists and members of the community are invited to submit work that answers the questions: How do we honor the queer ancestors who came before us to pave our path? When the world turns toward darkness, how do we let our joy shine? We are also seeking historical LGBTQIA+ ephemera and memorabilia specific to the SouthCoast region. Do you have any posters, pins, bar coasters, clothing, photographs, and artifacts that celebrate the stories and joy of the Queer community?

The MAC will host the traveling indoor exhibition supporting Being Seen: Celebrating South Coast Pride



NEW CONSTRUCTION
ADDITIONS
RENOVATIONS

**SOUTHCOAST DESIGN
& CONSTRUCTION, LLC**

508-758-2474
<http://www.southcoastdc.com>
cmm@southcoastdc.com

Christian McCullough / Michael Bichsel - Owners

from February 13 through March 13, with an opening celebration on Saturday, **February 14**, 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm at the MAC, 80 Pleasant St. Marion. Artists may submit up to two pieces each; 2D and 3D are welcome. Video work will also be considered, but artists must provide their own AV equipment. Artists may choose to have their work travel to future exhibition sites in collaboration with DATMA's Being Seen project. More information at marionartcenter.org.

For more information and to book tickets: marionartcenter.org/events.

Rochester Memorial School Committee Vacancy

The Town of Rochester is accepting letters of interest from residents who wish to be considered for appointment to a vacant seat on the Rochester Memorial School Committee. This appointment will fill the remainder of a term that expires at the Town's May Annual Election. Submission Deadline is February 6 at 12:00 pm (noon).

To Apply email a letter of interest to alacerda@townofrochester.com

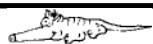
A joint meeting of the Select Board and the School Committee will be held to review submissions and vote on the appointment at the Rochester Town Hall on **February 24** at 6:00 pm. All interested and qualified residents are encouraged to apply.

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS			See past listing on our website: www.wanderer.com		
Buyer(s)	Seller(s)	Address	City	Date	Price
Ky Properties LLC	Morrell, Steven P	0 County Rd	Rochester	01/22/2026	400,000.00
Potential Properties LLC	Downing, Michael Dasilva, Harry B Est	Delano Rd Pcl 007a-00010	Marion	01/23/2026	29,900.00
Violino, Richard Violino, Susannah	Durand, Bertrand J B Jr TR Durand, Donna M TR Durand Family Trust	9 Hathaway Pond Cir	Rochester	01/23/2026	750,000.00
Durand, Bertrand J Durand, Donna M	Dacosta, Jane C	57 Hathaway Pond Cir	Rochester	01/23/2026	590,000.00



Local Tides

Day	Date	High		Low	
		a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Thursday	February 12	4:02	4:21	10:33	10:02
Friday	February 13	5:02	5:16	11:19	10:56
Saturday	February 14	5:47	6:00	11:59	11:43
Sunday	February 15	6:25	6:40		12:36
Monday	February 16	7:01	7:19	12:26	1:11
Tuesday	February 17	7:38	7:58	1:09	1:44
Wednesday	February 18	8:17	8:38	1:51	2:15
Thursday	February 19	8:58	9:20	2:32	2:47
Friday	February 20	9:42	10:06	3:12	3:21
Saturday	February 21	10:30	10:55	3:54	3:57
Sunday	February 22	11:23	11:49	4:38	4:39
Monday	February 23		12:19	5:32	5:28
Tuesday	February 24	12:47	1:19	6:48	6:30
Wednesday	February 25	1:50	2:24	9:12	7:49
Thursday	February 26	3:01	3:34	10:26	9:23
Friday	February 27	4:15	4:42	11:21	10:42
Saturday	February 28	5:20	5:41		12:07
Sunday	March 1	6:13	6:33		12:47
Phases of the Moon		New Moon First Quarter Full Moon Last Quarter		February 17th February 24th March 3rd March 11th	



I Found the Aardvark!

Each week, hidden somewhere in the pages of *The Wanderer* is a tiny drawing of an aardvark. The little guy you are looking for looks exactly like the one pictured above (but don't put down this page as your answer, there's another one hidden somewhere in this issue).

Once you find the aardvark you can submit your answer on line and if you are right you will get Aardvark Points! You can then use these points to get cool Aardvark Prizes!

To enter visit: www.wanderer.com and Click on *I Found the Aardvark*
In the February 5, 2026 edition the Aardvark was on page 18

PUZZLE ANSWERS

CROSSWORD SOLUTION



SCRAMBLERS

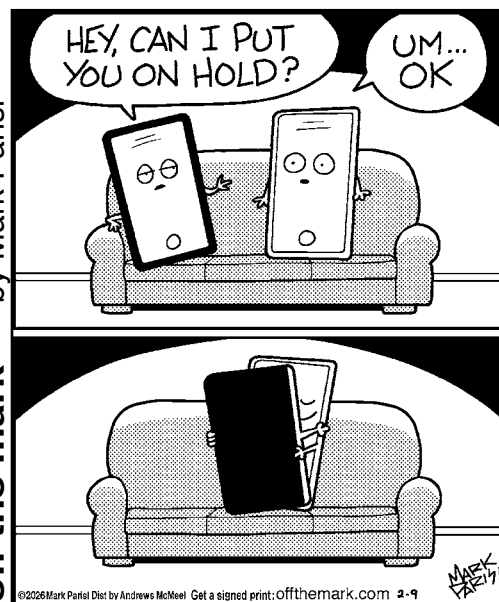
solution

1. Agenda; 2. Hoard;
3. Gleam; 4. Rapid

Today's Word
LADDER

Sudoku Answer

9	4	7	2	5	3	1	6	8
2	8	6	1	7	9	5	3	4
5	1	3	8	4	6	2	9	7
1	6	5	7	3	4	8	2	9
8	7	2	5	9	1	3	4	6
3	9	4	6	2	8	7	5	1
7	3	8	4	6	5	9	1	2
4	2	9	3	1	7	6	8	5
6	5	1	9	8	2	4	7	3

by Mark Parisi
off the mark

GROCERY, DAIRY & FROZEN

Liter Bottle, Selected Variety
Poland Spring
Sparkling Water

\$1¹⁹
 +Dep.



48 oz. Selected Variety
Breyer's
Ice Cream

\$5⁴⁹



Half Liter Bottles, 24 pk.
Poland Spring
Water

\$5⁹⁹

12 oz.
Kellogg's
Frosted Flakes Cereal

\$3⁹⁹

15.4-16.1 oz. Mini Wheats or Selected Variety
Kellogg's
Raisin Bran Cereal

\$3⁹⁹

24 oz. Selected Variety
Classico
Pasta Sauce

2/\$6

5.25-10 oz. Selected Variety
Near East
Side Dishes

\$1⁷⁹

8.5 oz.
Jiffy
Corn Muffin Mix

99¢

8 oz. Selected Variety
Philadelphia
Cream Cheese

2/\$6

16 oz. Selected Variety
Daisy
Cottage Cheese

\$3²⁹

10.6-14 oz. Selected Variety
Yasso
Greek Yogurt Bars

\$5⁹⁹

BAKERY



4 ct. Pkg.
Chocolate Covered
Strawberries

\$7⁹⁹

9 oz. Selected Variety
BisouSweet Confections
Donut Muffins

\$7⁴⁹

Fresh
Store Made
Garlic Bread

\$3⁴⁹

CHEF PREPARED

Selected Variety, With Blue Cheese Dressing
Gameday Wings!

\$10⁹⁹

Pint, With Apples & Butternut Squash
Farro Salad

\$10⁹⁹

Fresh
Garden Side Salad

\$6⁹⁹

Various Styles
Take & Bake Pizza

\$8⁹⁹ - \$10⁹⁹

Homemade
Savory Pies to Go!
Chicken Pot Pie

\$13⁹⁹

\$19⁹⁹

Shepherd's Pie

\$12⁹⁹

\$19⁹⁹

WINE

Buy any three
 bottles of wine &
 receive 10% off!

*Excludes 3/\$25. Wines
 ending in .98 and previously
 reduced wines.



MEAT, DELI, PREPARED FOODS & CHEESE

Fresh, Boneless
Bell & Evans
Chicken Breasts

\$8⁹⁹



Deli Sliced
Boar's Head
Maple Honey
Turkey

\$14²⁹



14 oz. Pkg.
Kayem
Polska Kielbasa

\$5⁹⁹

12 oz. Pkg. Selected Variety
North Country Smokehouse
Bacon

\$7⁹⁹

12.6 oz. Pkg.
Peter Luger
Steak Sauce

\$7⁹⁹

8 oz. Pkg.
Boar's Head
Muenster Cheese

\$4⁹⁹

16 oz. Pkg. Sliced
BelGloso
Mozzarella Log

\$7⁹⁹

Deli Fresh
Friends' Store Made
Greek Pasta Salad

\$8⁹⁹

Fresh
Friends' Store Packaged
Beet & Onion Salad

\$6⁹⁹

Fresh
Friends' Store Packaged
Seafood Salad

\$10⁹⁹

Fresh
Friends' Store Packaged
Yogurt Parfaits

\$5⁹⁹

Ready to Serve
Allen's
Rotisserie Chicken

\$9⁹⁹

SEE OTHER SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL GREAT SAVINGS THIS WEEK!

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY
FROM ALL OF US AT
FRIENDS' MARKETPLACE!

Plan a romantic dinner with all
your favorites from Friends'

Visit our website!
www.friendsplumbcorner.com



Friends'
marketplace

565 Rounseville Rd.
Rochester, MA 02770
Phone: 508.763.5333

Open Daily: 7am-8pm

at PLUMB CORNER

We reserve the right to limit quantities & correct typographical errors. Illustrations are for design purposes only. Items are while supplies last and no rain checks.
Due to current market conditions, item retails may change, and products may become unavailable unexpectedly.

SALE EFFECTIVE: Friday, February 13, to Thursday, February 19, 2026

BLOCKBUSTER SAVINGS!

Certified Black Angus
Friends' Premium
Sirloin Strip
Steak
\$19⁹⁹
lb



12-16 oz. Pkg.
Selected Variety
Barilla
Pasta
98¢



5 oz. Selected Variety
Bumble Bee
Solid White
Albacore Tuna
98¢



Deli Sliced, Vermont
Boar's Head
Cheddar
Cheese
\$8⁹⁹
lb



7-8 oz. Selected Variety
Cracker Cuts or Slices
Cabot
Cheese
2/\$7



9-14 oz. Raspberry Sorbet,
Selected Variety Bars or
Häagen-Dazs
Ice Cream
\$5⁴⁹



QUALITY PRODUCE



Fresh
Green Grapes

\$2⁹⁹
lb

6 oz. Pkg.
Raspberries

\$3⁹⁹

6 oz. Pkg.
Blackberries

\$2⁹⁹

Fresh
Green Peppers

\$2⁴⁹
lb

Fresh
Cucumbers

69¢

Fresh
Broccoli Crowns

\$2⁹⁹
lb



SEE OTHER SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL GREAT SAVINGS THIS WEEK!